How Trees Help the Planet

Trees Reduce Carbon by:
• storing carbon in their trunks, branches, leaves and roots
• removing CO₂ from the atmosphere through photosynthesis
• sheltering buildings thereby reducing energy demands and CO₂ emissions
• absorbing carbon produced by automobiles
• storing carbon in wood-based by-products (paper, lumber and furniture)

One Large, Healthy Tree can:
• lift up to 4,000 litres of water from the ground and release it into the air
• absorb as many as 7,000 dust particles per litre of air
• absorb 75 per cent of the CO₂ produced by the average car
• provide a day’s oxygen for up to four people

More Tree Facts:
• trees keep soil from washing away
• trees shade soil and protect it from drying out
• trees help absorb the noisy sounds of a city
• the average Canadian uses one 30-metre tree each year for lumber, plywood, particle board, cardboard and paper products
• an evergreen windbreak can create a 10 to 15 per cent savings on a home heating bill
• trees affect our emotions and make our homes and cities more appealing
• a view of trees can help hospital patients recover more quickly

Can you find five additional ways that this tree is helping our planet?

See answers on page 39.