



TOYOTA | EVERGREEN
LEARNING GROUNDS
Imagine your city with nature

SCHOOL TREE ADVOCATE

Without water, trees will die—that's why you need to appoint a School Tree Advocate. The School Tree Advocate is the voice of the trees on the school ground. His/her role is to let the greening committee know when weeding, watering and mulching are needed and to make sure the work gets done.

Appoint a School Tree Advocate

The School Tree Advocate is responsible for:

- Making sure the maintenance plan (weeding, watering, mulching) is carried out effectively by the greening committee.
- Providing a copy of the maintenance plan to the principal for record keeping.
- Making sure the role of School Tree Advocate is reassigned when necessary.

Implementing Your Maintenance Plan

Check out the strategies below that you'll use to carry out your school's maintenance plan.

- Water trees after they're planted and as needed throughout the entire school year.
- Spread wood mulch to retain moisture and keep weeds down.
- Prune dead wood from trees and shrubs in spring and fall.
- Protect tree trunks from string trimmers and lawnmowers that can kill the trees by damaging the trunk (i.e. mulch donut, wire mesh caging, trunk guard or woven tree baskets).
- Inform your school board maintenance department about tree and root damage caused by lawnmowers and string trimmers.

How you can execute your maintenance plan?

- Invite a local expert to identify weeds and show students how to remove them.
- Organize students to help weed, water and mulch.
- Recruit local high school students to maintain the site for volunteer credits or as a co-op placement.
- Pool funds with a nearby school to hire a team to do summer maintenance.
- Fundraise to hire a summer student to do maintenance.
- Plan a work party and invite the community to help out.

For more information on planting your trees for success, refer to www.evergreen.ca/en/lg/lg-resouces.html#maintenance

evergreen.ca

Don't let this happen to you!

Protect nature study areas by putting up snow fencing!

What is compaction?

Compaction occurs when the soil over the tree roots is compressed making it difficult for trees to get the water and oxygen they require.