

# Tree Seed Collector Training & Mentorship Program

## October 2017

Every autumn when the leaves are getting ready to fall, many trees are also preparing to drop their seeds. Since trees are genetically adapted to growing conditions in their region, nurseries need to purchase locally collected seed. The problem is, there are very few people gathering seed in Southwestern Ontario. By becoming a seed collector, you will be aiding in the future sustainability of local forestry.

The tree seed collection seasons occur during spring and fall, with the bulk of tree species dropping their seed over a few weeks in September and October. Collecting seed is a great way to support conservation efforts while earning some extra money, all you need is to be able and willing to collect, process, and transport seed.

Through this hands-on training and mentorship program, offered by the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and sponsored by Enbridge, learn from expert seed collectors, Ron Thayer and Brian Swaile, at a one-day course. After attending the course, the SCRCA will continue mentoring and working with the new seed collectors on an annual basis.

You can see Brian Swaile, one of the experts that will be teaching at the course, in this [short video](#) about seed collection and the impact of climate change on Ontario's trees.

### One-day Seed Collector Training Course Information

**Location:** Warwick Conservation Area (and various sites in Lambton County)

**Date:** Tuesday October 3, 2017

**Time:** 9:00am to 4:00pm

**Fee:** Free of charge

**\*Please bring a bag lunch**

Through this hands-on training and mentorship program, you will learn how to:

- Forecast when the seed will be ready
- Determine the best seed collection locations
- Efficiently collect, process, and clean seed
- Tap into a seasonal income stream year-after-year by selling seed to nurseries with help from your local CA

**To register and for more information, contact:**

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*Top: SCRCA staff collecting seed*

*Bottom: Seed that has been cleaned and processed*

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