

Growing Trees in Cities, Sustainably

Victoria is built on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen People.

The Songhees and Esquimalt Nations are part of the Coast Salish family and are descendants of the Lekwungen family groups.





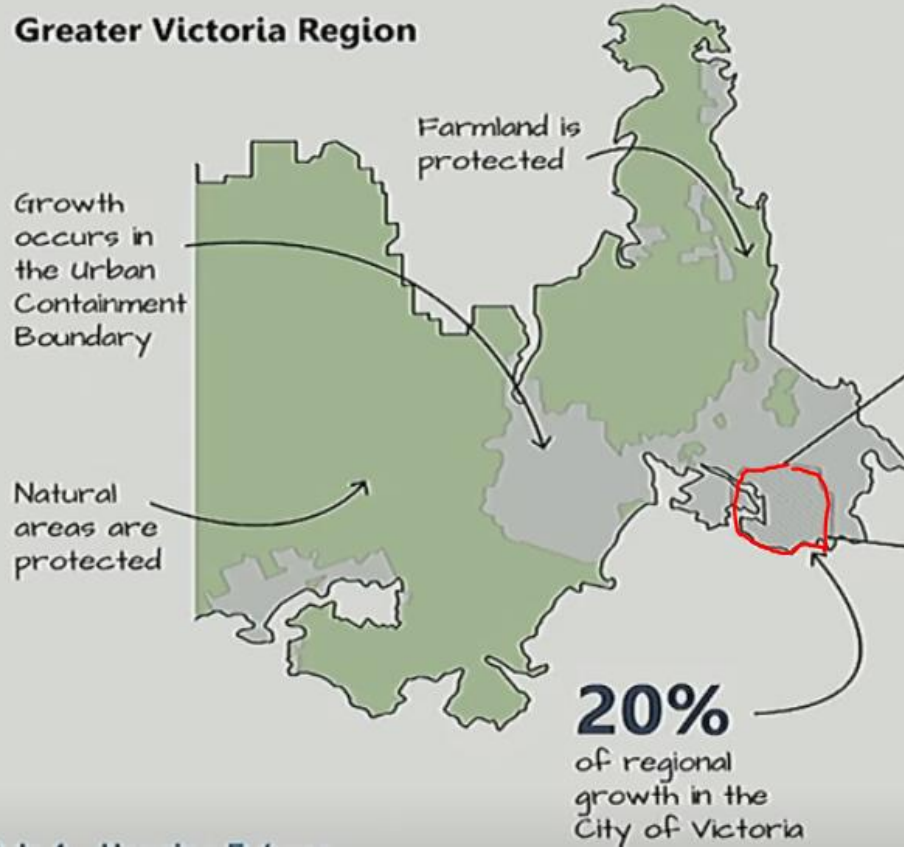




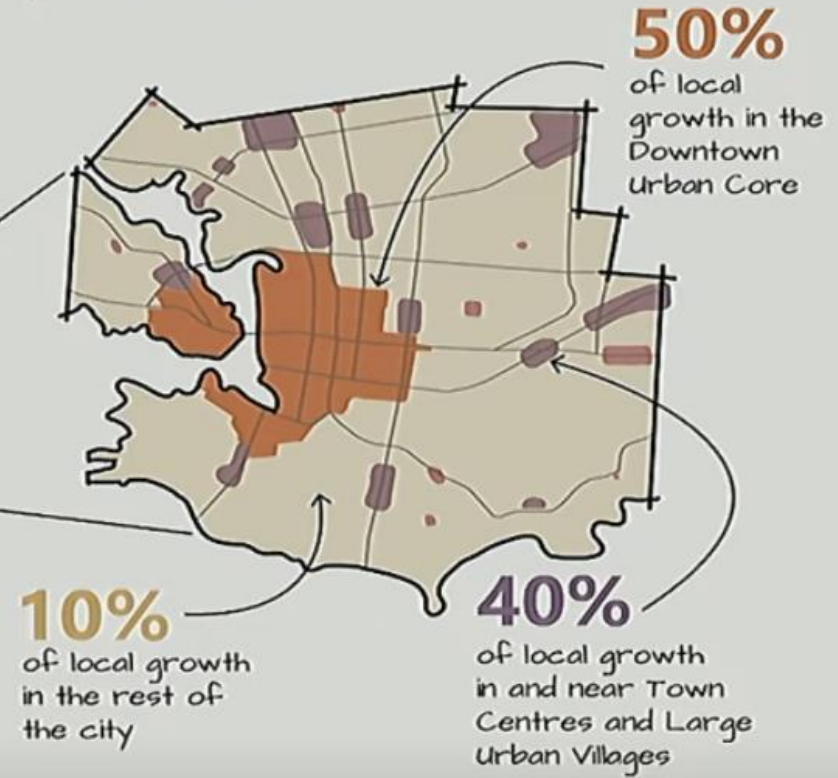


Capacity: Foundation for Meeting Need

Greater Victoria Region



City of Victoria









- 2013-2019 LiDAR analysis canopy loss (red) and canopy gain (green)
- Net gain of 45ha of canopy coverage across the City



Tree health resources



How to plant a tree and properly care for it

Easy steps to healthy, happy new trees

When to plant

Trees should be planted during fall and winter months so that their new seedlings have more time to take root before the onset of spring and summer.

How to transport your tree

Make sure to protect the tree during transport - even a small wound on the trunk could cause long-term damage to your tree. If transporting your tree in an upright position, use a wooden crate to hold the tree in place. This will help reduce stress on the tree caused by wind or movement. Do not carry the tree by the trunk, only carry by the root ball or container.

Call a professional

Call a professional such as an arborist or a tree care company for advice on the best way to transport your tree.

1 Dig before you dig!

Call BC1Call or visit their website bc1call.ca to identify any underground utilities such as gas, sewer and water lines. It's free, fast and could help you avoid safety hazards, costly repairs, or early removal of your tree due to utility conflicts.

2 Digging the hole

Dig a hole that is two to three times wider than the root ball in a slight saucer shape. The hole should be dug just deep enough for the trunk, feet to sit partially above ground. Store the soil you remove next to the hole. If the hole has been dug too deep, ensure that the soil is compacted in the center of the hole so as to support the tree's weight and to avoid settling.

3 Taking the tree out of its container

Visit until the hole is already dug to remove the tree from its container to avoid excess damage or drying of its roots. Carefully remove the tree from its container. Use a shovel or garden knife to remove circling roots from container-grown or balled & burlap (B&B) root balls. If the root ball is in a wire basket or burlap, cut and remove as much of the wire or burlap as you can once you have positioned the tree.



How to choose the right tree for your property

Before choosing a tree species to plant on your property, there are some important factors to consider. Use the questions below to help identify what you need to know to choose the right tree for the right place. Make a note of your responses to each question - you can take them to your local nursery to help select the right tree for you.

1 Where can you plant a new tree?

Trees should be planted at least one metre away from utility lines and paved surfaces and at least two metres away from buildings. Call BC1Call or visit bc1call.ca to identify underground utilities such as gas, sewer and water lines.



2 How large a tree can you plant on your property?

Identify the maximum size of tree you could fit on your property.

The size of the tree you can plant is limited by the soil volume available for roots to grow, and the air space for the branches to grow. To help to illustrate this, the diagram to the right shows some around a house where tree size is limited.

- **Small tree zones:** only a small tree (less than 10 m tall and less than 8 m wide) should be planted because of the proximity to buildings. Examples of small trees include Japanese maple, weeping willow or Taiwan dogwood. Small trees should also be considered when there are overhead powerlines or small amounts of soil.
- **Medium tree zones:** a tree 10 to 18 m tall and less than 12 m wide can be considered where there is more space above and below ground but there are still limits due to nearby buildings, utilities or limited soil. Examples of medium trees include Bald maple, Eastern or Honey Locust.
- **Large tree zones:** where space is abundant a large tree (more than 18 m tall and more than 12 m wide) can be considered. Examples of large trees include Cherry red, Douglas fir or red maple.



Community stewardship projects and resources





**TREE
CITIES**
OF THE **WORLD™**



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

A programme of:



Arbor Day Foundation™

