



# Questions & Answers

Canada's Forest Trust will plant millions of acres of Smart Forests across Canada by 2040. We will build on deforested land located in ecologically diverse regions across the country, and will protect some of our nation's most imperilled plants and animals.

## What is a Smart Forest?

A Smart Forest is more than a collection of trees. It has a significant impact on climate change.

- Supports wildlife, improves air quality, and regulates water flow
- Offers a tangible way to offset a large carbon footprint
- Maximizes its impact through expert forest management
- Proves its effectiveness via proprietary digital tools
- Boosts the green economy
- Promotes the health and wellbeing of all Canadians
- Is protected forever with a no-clear-cut/harvest guarantee

## Who can build a Smart Forest?

Anyone can build a Smart Forest:

- Corporations looking to meet ESG goals.
- Students who want to make a positive impact on their future.
- Individuals and families with a goal of protecting the planet for future generations or building a memorial in someone's honour.

## Why did you establish Canada's Forest Trust?

We saw a gap to do something truly impactful and sustainable in an area that needs resources, patience and bold action to combat climate change.

Under the right conditions, a forest will become a force of nature—quite literally. As the threat of climate change closes in, forests are one of our last and best chances to save our planet before it's too late.

Our Smart Forests will capture millions of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, rehabilitate ecosystems and create jobs, country-wide. And we will never clear-cut

Did you know that approximately **2.6 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>** are absorbed by forests each year, which is approximately 1/3 of all CO<sub>2</sub> emissions released over the span of an average year?



# Questions & Answers

## How do you build a Smart Forest?

We build Smart Forests with our five-step Action Plan:

1. PROCURE : Acquire land across Canada
2. PREPARE: Assess, plan, and complete site preparation for planting
3. PLANT: Strategically plant seedlings to ensure optimal growth and carbon sequestration
4. PRESERVE: Perform innovative forest management activities to maintain the forest and maximize its impact
5. PROTECT: Audit, and set a no clear-cut guarantee on every forest

## How is Canada's Forest Trust different from other tree planting organizations?

CFT takes a holistic approach to forestry that doesn't stop at planting trees. We ensure the long term health of our forests with certifiable monitoring and expert management. And we will protect our forests forever. We will tell you exactly where in Canada your seedlings are planted, the health of the land, the impact your seedlings / forest is having on biodiversity, etc.

We provide all of this information through a private portal with state of the art monitoring and measuring technology.

## Is Canada's Forest Trust a Charitable Organization?

No. We believe that the private sector has the responsibility to play in fighting climate change.

## When does a Smart Forest start to offset carbon?

Within the first year of planting, forests will have already begun sequestering carbon in their roots and stems. The younger the tree, the more carbon it sequesters.

## What is the average carbon footprint (CFP) of an average Canadian?

The average Canadian emits about 20 tonnes of carbon a year. To put that in perspective, that is about the size of 170 queen mattresses.

## What is a carbon offset?

You offset carbon by making the amount of carbon you release in a year equal to the amount of carbon stored in the forest.

## What does it cost to buy a Smart Forest?

Using our net-zero calculator, first, we help you understand your carbon footprint. Then, with our forest calculator we can determine the size of forest you will build and over what period of time. This is measured in Forest Trust Units (FTUs). The cost will be calculated based on the number of FTUs you need.

The average  
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# Questions & Answers

## **Is there a minimum amount to 'own' a Smart Forest?**

Yes. 1 Forest Trust Unit is measured in 5 acres, or at least 5,000 seedlings trees. Our communal forest allows for much lower than 5 acres so you are part of a forest.

## **What does it cost to buy a Smart Forest?**

Using our net zero calculator first we help you understand your carbon footprint, then via our forest calculator we can determine the size of forest you need to build and over what period of time, this is measured in Forest Trust Units (FTUs). An FTU is 5 acres and the cost will be calculated based on the number of FTUs you need. For more information please email [grow@canadasforesttrust.ca](mailto:grow@canadasforesttrust.ca).

## **What does it cost to buy a Smart Forest?**

We hope that every Canadian can play a role and CFT is built with this in mind. One FTU is measured in 5 acres, or approximately 5,000 seedlings trees. Our communal forest allows for much lower than 5 acres so you are part of a forest.

## **Can I buy a Smart Forest as a gift?**

Yes. You can create a Legacy or Memorial Forest or you can contribute to a Communal Forest in someone's name.

## **Where does my money go?**

CFT uses funds to acquire land, prepare it for planting, purchase seedlings, hire planters, perform forest management, insure the land and pay land tax, provide reporting and annual audits.

When you invest in a Smart Forest, you stay informed on its progress – from site selection to planting to ongoing maintenance and carbon footprint impact.

## **How do you choose where to build Smart Forests?**

CFT sources lands across the country that are suitable for reforestation and will have maximum impact on the environment.

## **How many trees will Canada's Forest Trust plant per acre?**

The ideal number for a successful forest is approximately 1,000 seedlings per acre. Depending on the species and land, we can plant up to 1200 seedlings per acre.



# Questions & Answers

## **How do you choose where to build Smart Forests?**

Our forestry experts will advise on the right mix of species for the soil and climate of each forest location.

As a common practice, CFT Smart Forests will be built with softwood species (conifers). These species are fast-growing and have needles that are kept year-round. Some examples of softwood species include: douglas fir, lodgepole pine, and white spruce.

We will also implement management practices that will promote hardwood growth.

## **Can I visit my Smart Forest?**

Absolutely. But, given that not everyone can physically visit a forest and in the first few years there is not much to see, you can see and monitor your forest in real time via your personal portal. If you wish to visit your forest, contact [grow@canadasforesttrust.ca](mailto:grow@canadasforesttrust.ca).

## **Will you cut down a Smart Forest?**

CFT will NEVER clear-cut a forest or sell the land. We will manage our forests to create healthy ecosystems.

## **How will you protect the forests?**

CFT has hired experts to plan and build our forests and, provide extensive monitoring systems.

## **How many jobs will Canada's Forest Trust create?**

Our business plan is to create thousands of jobs across Canada. Each phase of our five-step Action Plan will require person-power. There will be opportunities for nursery workers, truck drivers, tree planters, crew managers, auditors, monitoring/silviculture workers, brush saw operators, foresters for assessment, planning block layout (marking boundaries) workers, site prep operators, and more.

## **Why should I invest with CFT and not a charity?**

We encourage all Canadians to find a way to combat climate change. CFT is pleased to offer turnkey solutions that engage all individuals, families, schools and corporation Canadians to reach net-zero.

## **What corporate benefits does CFT offer?**

CFT offers a variety of benefits that can be customized to meet your needs. Contact us at [grow@canadasforesttrust.ca](mailto:grow@canadasforesttrust.ca) for more information.