



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Adopt-A-Tree, Create-A-Forest

The Adopt-A-Tree, Create-A-Forest program is an annual OCDSB led initiative that was started in 2016 aimed at reforesting an area at our MacSkimming Outdoor Education Centre property. The Facilities department invites schools to “adopt” up to 10 tree seedlings in the spring. The teachers and students then care for them until the fall, at which time they are transported and planted out at OCDSB’s Outdoor-Ed Centre, MacSkimming to create a forest. The forest will not only be used for educational purposes, but will also be a point of pride for the schools within the OCDSB as they maintain the trees and watch them grow over time. The tree species selected are species native to the area and suitable for the environmental conditions and provide habitat to native wildlife.

The trees are delivered to the school in pots and saucers and cared for over the summer by the teachers or students. The trees and supplies are paid for by the Facilities department.

The program works in conjunction with the EcoSchools program as it earns points toward certification in multiple sections. In addition, students have the opportunity to learn the fascinating process of tree growth, take ownership of the seedlings and develop an intrinsic connection to the newly planted trees and other trees around them.

The Adopt-A-Tree, Create-A-Forest has “adopted” over 600 tree seedlings to OCDSB schools for planting. If you would like to learn more about the program or find out how you can get involved please contact Kestrel Wraggett at kestrel.wraggett@ocdsb.ca or 613-596-8211 x 3440.