

Tree Planting



Introduction (*For Facilitators*):

This activity brings together environmental stewardship and cultural ceremony. The community can participate in the planting of native trees like willow, poplar, or saskatoon while learning more about the land. Make sure the planting site is suitable (moist soil, access to water). Invite Elders or Knowledge Keepers to lead opening and closing teachings.

Materials Checklist:

- Native trees (poplar, willow, saskatoon, etc.)
- Shovels
- Water (cans, jugs, or hose)
- Wooden tags or plaques
- Paint, markers, or permanent pens
- First aid kit

Steps:

1. **Circle Gathering:** Listen to the Elder's teachings about the meaning of trees.
2. **Prepare to Plant:** Work together to dig holes and prepare the ground.
3. **Plant the Trees:** Carefully place the tree in the hole, fill it with soil, and give it water.
4. **Name Your Tree:** Paint or print a name tag for your tree. It can be a name in your language, something that reminds you of the day, or a teaching you carry.
5. **Closing Circle:** After planting, gather again to reflect and share why names matter.

Works Cited

Anishnawbe Mushkiki. "Your Name and Colours." Anishnawbe Mushkiki, 11 Nov. 2023, mushkiki.com/programs-services/your-name-and-colours/.

Mahikan Trails. "Mahikan Trails – Indigenous Experiences." Mahikan Trails, Indigenous Tourism Alberta, 8 June 2018, mahikan.ca/.