

Oakvillegreen to sell saplings from Bronte's great white oak

It has stood for 260 years in Oakville and soon residents will have the opportunity to buy a part of it and make their own contributions to the town's environmental history.

At the end of September, Oakvillegreen president Liz Benneian will be selling saplings grown from the acorns of Oakville's famed great white oak tree in Bronte.

The white oak, recently designated Oakville's first historic tree, was nearly destroyed in the Bronte Road road-widening project in 2006, but was saved by a citizen campaign led by the late Joyce Burnell.

Two years ago Oakvillegreen members collected acorns from the tree.

These seeds have been growing at the Earthgen Native Tree Nursery since and will be three to five feet high when sold this fall.

Only 500 saplings are available at \$50 each.

White oaks require significant growing space as they can grow 100 feet tall with a canopy of 50 to 80 feet wide.

Oakvillegreen advises the saplings be planted at least 25 feet from buildings and if someone does not have room on their property, they can still purchase the sapling and allow



FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT: Oakvillegreen will sell saplings from Bronte's great white oak tree this fall.

Oakvillegreen to plant it in the community on their behalf.

Some trees will also be given to Conservation Halton to help reforest targeted areas of the Glenorchy Conservation Area.

Others will be traded to other communities in exchange for their local historic trees.

White oaks can tolerate a wide range of soil types, but do need sun. Planting and maintenance instructions will be provided to every purchaser.

The names of those who have purchased and planted a tree(s) or asked for a community planting of their tree(s) will be listed on the Oakvillegreen website (www.oakvillegreen.org). Purchasers will also receive a brochure with the tree's history.

Bulk purchases are being encouraged and there will be 10 per cent discount in the price for the purchase of 10 saplings or more.

For a short video about the saplings, visit <http://vimeo.com/25483801>.

To learn more about the great white oak tree in Bronte, visit <http://treestory.wordpress.com/episodes/>.

To find out more about purchasing the saplings, contact Benneian at president@oakvillegreen.org.

That's why we're working so hard to protect them.

On behalf of the Town of Oakville, Arborwood Tree Service is currently treating qualifying ash trees this summer to protect them from the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).

To date, this metallic green-coloured beetle has destroyed more than 20 million ash trees in North America and is threatening Oakville's ash tree canopy. Without treatment, ash trees will inevitably die.

Support the Oakville Canopy Club!

You don't need an ash tree to do your part to help save Oakville's tree canopy. Visit www.oakville.ca/eab.htm.

Mention this ad on the Oakville Canopy Club Facebook page and get a free t-shirt!

(T-shirts are available to Oakville residents only. While supplies last.)

Spread the word!

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