

TD Forests: Embedding the Environment in Our Business

Becoming the first North-American-based bank to go carbon neutral in 2010 was a major achievement for us, almost like winning Olympic gold, an Oscar or, dare we say, the Stanley Cup. It showed that we were serious about being environmental leaders in the financial industry. But it did leave a bit of a quandary that perhaps all athletes or movie stars feel the morning after a big win: "Now what?"

To get a better sense of what our customers expected of TD and how they viewed environmental issues, we completed extensive market research. The results were surprising:

- Despite concerns over economic hardship and uncertainty, the environment was identified as a top issue of long-term concern.
- When we asked about specific areas of concern, more than 90% responded that protection of forest habitat was vitally important.
- When we asked our customers how we could best improve our environmental performance, they responded overwhelmingly with a single request – "less paper."

Based on this feedback we set about designing a program – and so [TD Forests](#) was born.



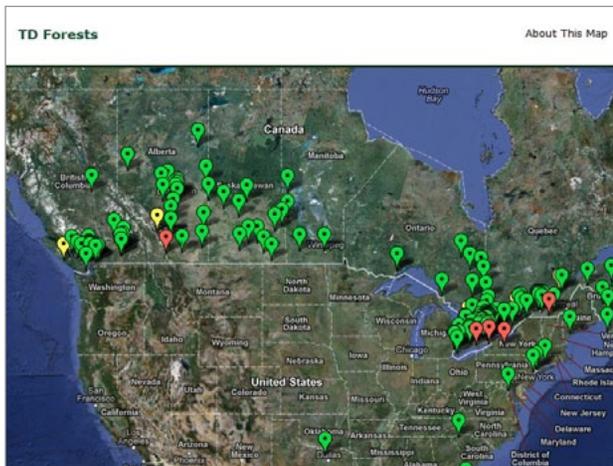
What is TD Forests?

TD Forests is the first program we have developed that explicitly seeks to embed an environmental perspective across all aspects of our business. We aim to:

- Reduce the environmental impact of our business operations;
- Support responsible resource development through industries that we finance;
- Develop green product options for our customers; and
- Engage our employees and communities to provide measurable environmental benefit.

Launched in 2012, the program has two simple components:

- 1) Reduce the total amount of paper that we use and ensure that the paper that we purchase comes from sustainably managed forests.
- 2) Grow the area of protected natural forest ecosystems across North America.



Reducing paper

Each and every year we use about 14,000 tonnes of paper.

Our commitment to paper reduction means:

- Reducing all types of paper that we use, including office paper, commercial print, business forms and paper we send to our customers;
- Increasing the recycled content of our paper; and
- Ensuring that the paper we do use comes from certified sustainably managed forests.



GOAL:
20%
reduction

in TD's paper usage by 2015
(relative to a 2010 baseline)

Explore the TD Forests Interactive Map to view tree planting and conservation projects across North America.

Reducing our dependency on paper-based information means changing our business processes. Some of the ways that we are doing this are:

- Providing incentives for business managers by developing a costing model that puts a price on paper and the cost of paper management;
- Expediting projects that have the potential to reduce paper demand, such as printer consolidation, print on demand, e-reporting and digitization of business processes;
- Creating opportunities for knowledge exchange among our businesses;
- Enhancing our online statement and other e-banking services; and
- Engaging our employees to identify ways to reduce paper use, to change behaviours and to measure the impact of that change.

But let's face it, despite these actions, we will continue to use a lot of paper. That is why it is equally important to educate our suppliers and employees on best practices in sustainable forest management.

Modern forestry techniques incorporate practices to ensure that managed forests are replanted to provide a renewable and sustainable natural resource. Programs such as the [Forest Stewardship Council \(FSC\)](#) and the [Sustainable Forestry Initiative \(SFI\)](#) provide certifications of sustainable forest management. Through TD Forests, we encourage the use of sustainably produced forest products and, through partnerships with groups such as the Ontario Forestry Association, we provide educational opportunities.

Growing the area of protected natural forest ecosystems

Forests form the backdrop to our lives. They play a crucial role in filtering the air we breathe, moderating temperatures and improving our water quality. Forests are also home to one-third of North America's plant and animal species, many of which are threatened.

These resources, so often taken for granted, are increasingly under threat. Much of our accessible natural forest ecosystems have been lost through urban and agricultural development.

TD has been involved in forest stewardship and education for more than 20 years through the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation. TD Forests builds on this legacy and expands it to include our employees, business operations and community initiatives together under one canopy. We've made a \$13 million commitment over the next five years to:

- Increase the area of protected forest habitat;
- Increase urban tree cover; and
- Raise awareness of the value and benefits of forest ecosystems.



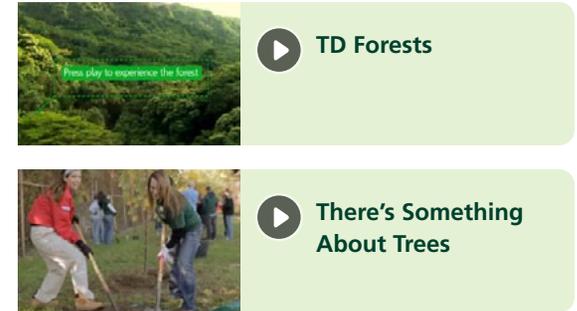
We're working with the [Nature Conservancy of Canada](#) (NCC) and [The Nature Conservancy](#) (TNC) in the U.S. to protect an area equivalent to 2.5 football fields of natural forest ecosystem each and every day for the next five years. By protecting forest ecosystems, we're helping to protect not only trees but everything in between.

In 2012, year one of the TD Forests initiative, we announced five valuable properties representing 487 hectares of forest across North America that are now protected through our partnerships with NCC and TNC.

Since 1990, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation has supported more than 20,000 local environmental projects, many associated with forest conservation, biodiversity and education. And in 2012, the City Parks Foundation recognized TD for our continuing support of their environmental education programs in New York City.

[TD Tree Days](#) is our centrepiece employee volunteer program. In 2012, approximately 3,600 TD employees along with other volunteers planted more than 40,000 trees in 138 communities across Canada, the U.S., the U.K. and Luxembourg. TD works with experts such as [Tree Canada](#) and the U.S.-based [Alliance for Community Trees](#), as well as community conservation groups to plan the initiatives, ensuring that the trees selected are indigenous to the areas where they're planted and suited to the conditions of specific locations.

TD Tree Days encourages volunteers of all ages to get involved.



40,000
trees

planted in 138 urban and rural communities during the 2012 TD Tree Days campaign.

475+
organizations

received TD Green Streets grants in 2012 to help green their communities through tree planting, inventory, maintenance and educational activities.

