

SPRING 2016

# OUR GREENHOME.CA

ECO-FRIENDLY HOME RESOURCE GUIDE

## A CELEBRATION OF WOOD

SHOWCASING ONTARIO ARTISANS AND BUILDERS

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SPRING 2016

In March, I was fortunate to join over 5,000 of the world's sustainability leaders in Vancouver for Globe 2016: The Leadership Summit for Sustainable Business. There, I had the opportunity to ask some key players what they felt individual homeowners could do to make a meaningful difference.

**Al Monaco, Chief Executive Officer and President, Enbridge Inc.:**

*"Improve home energy efficiency, update appliances, and change driving habits."*

**Chad Park, Executive Director, The Natural Step Canada:**

*"Be an active citizen. Be ambitious. Demand action."*

**Mike Gerbis, CEO, Globe Series:**

*"Look around your home. Pick one small thing. Do it."*

To this we add, *"Then tell others what you did and why. Green action is catching!"*

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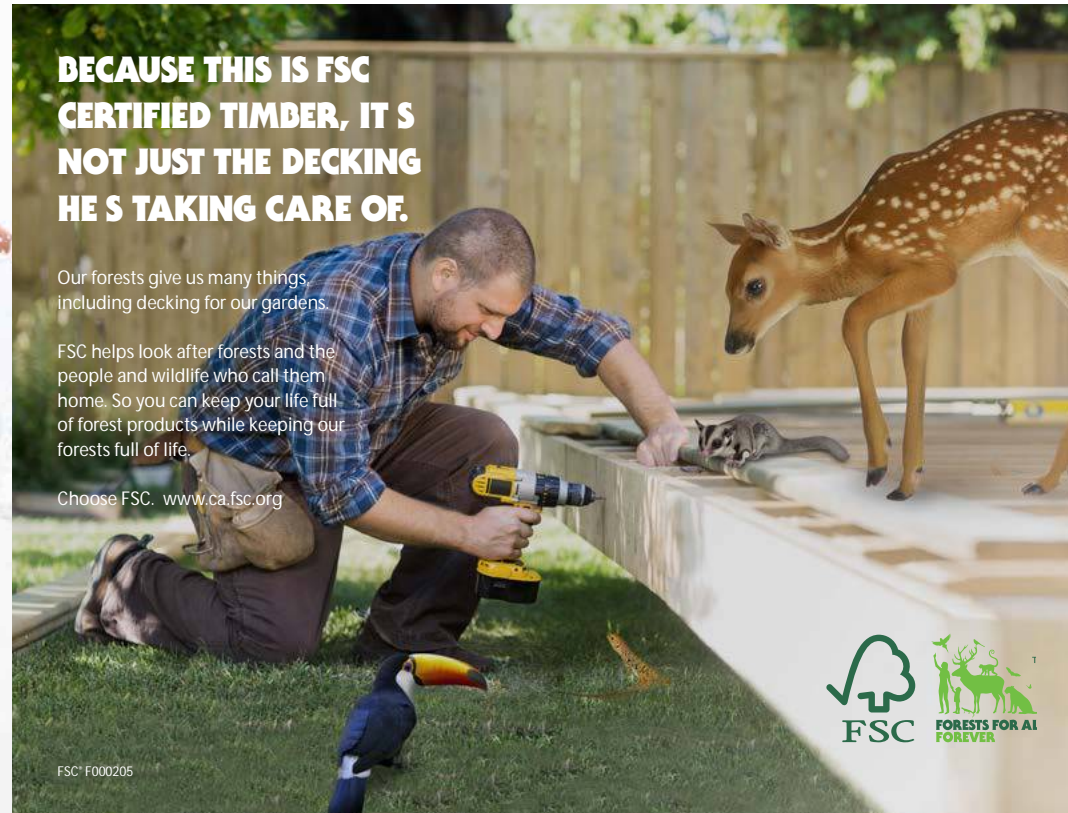


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# URBAN LUMBER

## IT'S WOOD NOT WASTE!

**T**here are 10 million trees in the City of Toronto. Ponder that for a moment: Canada's largest city is an urban forest! Ottawa similarly boasts extensive urban woods in and around the city limits, and of course has deep roots as a lumber town. And as in any forest anywhere, trees die and come down. Recently, Ontario's two largest cities have developed ingenious sustainability programs to keep the mass of "waste wood" every year out of local dumps. Instead, the wood is being used to make everything from energy and public buildings to furniture and toys.

They are not alone: cities around the world are looking in their own backyards and figuring out how to turn waste into high-value wood products—and save money. It was in Sweden that Rob McMonagle, Senior Advisor - The Green Economy in Toronto's department of Economic Development & Culture, got a glimpse of what might be possible in Ontario. While at meetings in Stockholm, he learned how the municipality was harvesting wood from their urban

forest and either using it to generate clean energy or selling it to artisans. "I started looking at the opportunities at home," says McMonagle. "I knew downed and removed trees were piling up in our waste yards, costing us thousands to dispose of. And I was learning that wood sales could be viable, even, potentially huge."

**cities around the world are looking in their own backyards and figuring out how to turn waste into high-value wood products**

By January 2015 a pilot in a city woodlot confirmed there was a viable potential business, working with three separate lumber companies, who set up their portable sawmills at city sites and produced beautiful urban-wood planks and slabs. Interestingly, some city wood is being milled for use in specific local uses, such as trees coming out of the Regent

park redevelopment being put to use in that area's new local recreation centre.

Since 2014, a hardwood-flooring company in Ottawa has been buying the surplus ash lumber resulting from the cull of thousands of trees, part of a campaign to address the spread of the emerald ash borer beetle. Other initiatives in Ottawa include using waste ash in the construction of new rapid transit stations.

Toronto is now promoting the salvage concept to residents. Homeowners are responsible when a tree on their property has to come down. Expensive to fell and remove, they are also often of sentimental value. So now the city is encouraging residents to consider milling parts of the tree onsite and preserving lifelong memories in "heirloom" furniture. This initiative has the potential to divert many of the 60,000 trees coming down on private property in Toronto every year. To support local businesses turning our wood waste into high-value wood products, the City has created a comprehensive listing of lo-



cal woodworkers and mills, available at [toronto.ca/urbanwooddirectory](http://toronto.ca/urbanwooddirectory). For resources in the Ottawa region, visit [ecologyottawa.ca/tree-ottawa/](http://ecologyottawa.ca/tree-ottawa/). In addition, many Ontario Wood Partner Producers use salvaged wood. See pages 12-23 for some examples. ■

*Photos by: Toronto UrbanWood*

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## GETTING AGGRESSIVE ABOUT PASSIVE

By combining existing technologies in innovative ways, the Passive House is a game changer.

One of the highlights of the Canada Green Building Council Greater Toronto Chapter's recent annual Green Summit held at Black Creek Pioneer Village, was a presentation on "the Passive House Landscape in Canada" by Andrew Peel, president of OntarioPH Group.

Attendees learned that Passive House, a rigorous and scientific approach to design and construction developed in Germany, uses as little as 10% of the energy of a comparable conventionally built home. These include passive solar for heating; landscaping to mitigate ambi-

ent conditions; superinsulation to reduce heat transfer; and windows with exceptionally high R-values.

Supporting the concept, Lloyd Alter of Treehugger stated in the opening address that research and performance data indicate that the building investment with very best return is the thermal envelope.

In 2010, the Canadian Passive House Institute was formed to teach Canadians the techniques. To learn more about Passive House potential, visit [www.passivehouse.ca](http://www.passivehouse.ca). ■

## WOOD RISING

THANKS TO CHANGES IN 2015, WOOD MID-RISE BUILDINGS ARE GOING UP

It was only last year that Ontario builders were first permitted to construct buildings as high as six-storeys out of wood. Changes to the building code were a way to both support the Ontario lumber industry and to serve our growing urban density needs with a mid-rise option.

While previously there had been concern about wood's strength and flammability, with a new generation of "engineered" wood products such as cross-laminated timber (CLT) have overcome them. Laminated layers of wood produce weight-bearing beams and joists with similar properties to steel, and can be treated to be highly fire-resistant. When constructed with fire retardant building materials and outfitted with advanced sprinkler systems, repeated studies show that wood buildings present no greater risk of fire.

**There's already 'a bit of a buzz' about Ontario's first wood mid-rise**

Using wood as a construction material may prove to be a boon to mid-size urban construction. Both Toronto and Ottawa's official plans call for more mid-size residential buildings but developers find it tough to make a profit on this scale of project when built of steel or concrete, both of which are more costly than wood. Under our new building codes, developers, architects, contractors and their clients will be talking a lot more about new timber technologies going forwards.

There's already a bit of a buzz about Ontario's first completion: Templar Flats, a mixed-use wood mid-



rise in Hamilton. And Toronto is the site for the first two six-storey wood residential projects to seek permit application under the new codes: Heartwood on the Beach; and The Cabin in midtown. Other projects around the province include a 69-unit, six-storey affordable housing project in London awaiting permit approval, and a 100-unit, five-storey concrete and wood building in the planning phase in Oakville.

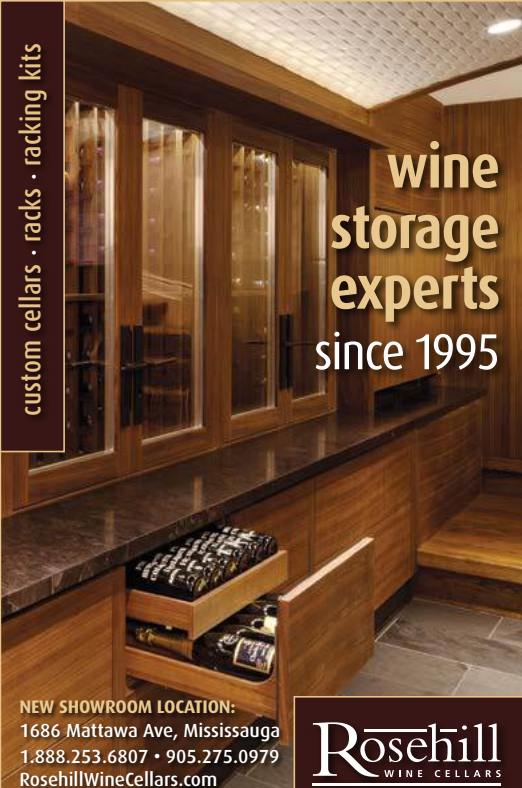
Wood is indeed on the rise. ■



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SCOTT MCGILLIVRAY  
HOST OF INCOME PROPERTY



## SPRING PLANTING OPPORTUNITIES ARE JUST AROUND THE CORNER



**"I wish the 50 Million Tree Program had come along sooner!"**  
recounts Brad Bunkowsky of the Burlington Springs Golf & Country Club.

Bunkowsky is one of more than 4,000 landowners across Ontario who has taken advantage of the program, which provides subsidies and practical assistance for planting trees on private property. To date, Forests Ontario has planted over 19.3 million trees through the 50 Million Tree Program.

Are you looking for a spring project that will add function and value to your property? If so, the

Ontario government's 50 Million Tree Program makes tree planting easy. Subsidies cover a significant portion of total planting costs.

In addition to absorbing carbon dioxide, trees provide energy consumption reducing shade to our homes, windbreaks to our farms and health benefits to our communities. Contact Forests Ontario to learn more about leaving your legacy. ■



Forests Ontario's Green Leader Brad Bunkowsky on his property, Burlington Springs Golf & Country Club

## TREE PLANTING? FUNDING SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE



If you are planting trees on your property you may be eligible for funding assistance. Planting trees on your property helps fight climate change, increases wild life habitat and water conservation.

Forests Ontario is working with its tree planting partners across the province to deliver the Ontario government's 50 Million Tree Program.

If you have at least 2.5 acres of productive land, you could qualify.

Call or visit us at:

**Forests Ontario**  
416.646.1193  
[www.forestsontario.ca/50mtp](http://www.forestsontario.ca/50mtp)

Paid for, in part, by the Government of Ontario





# Seeing the Forest and the Trees



**For hundreds of years, Ontario's forests have played an integral role in building this province, wood frame by wood frame.**

Today, Ontario wood's roots reach deep into our society, creating and sustaining more than 152,000 jobs related to the forestry industry and building the local economies of some 260 communities across the province.

In addition to supporting a healthy economy, when you buy a product, it makes sense to choose one made of a material that grows naturally and is renewable.

Wood from Ontario is one of the best-managed resources in the world. An incredible 85 billion trees stand in our forests, yet we harvest only one fifth of one per cent of the managed forest. For every tree cut, three take root in its place. This commitment to sustainability ensures the long-term health of our forest ecosystems while balancing economic and social benefits to the province.

Ontario's forests also offer a broad range of wood species that can be made into hundreds of different products to suit your tastes and needs. This includes one-of-a-kind handcrafted wooden treasures and furnishings that exude natural warmth —items you can enjoy for years to come.

Featuring versatility and competitive pricing, Ontario wood can be found in your own community, including the local building centre, furniture store and artisan gallery.

What is Ontario Wood? It's knowing that you're choosing a high quality, environmentally friendly product and a more prosperous future for Ontarians.

## **It's the natural choice.**

Ontario Wood is an Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry program supported by partners across the province to raise awareness of the many benefits of choosing locally grown wood and wood products. You can learn more at [www.ontario.ca/wood](http://www.ontario.ca/wood).

**Turn the page for a look at some of our partner producers who feature Ontario wood** ➤



Whether you base your choice on quality and price, supporting local producers and local communities, what's best for the environment, or simply because you love the natural beauty of wood products — Ontario Wood can help meet your needs.

Just Look for the Leaf — the Ontario Wood tag — on or near the product, or simply ask the vendor if their wood was grown locally.

### Discover Ontario Wood, meet some of our Producer Partners and see their Wood Craft at:

- CLS** COTTAGE LIFE SHOW Toronto, International Centre, April 1-3  
**OCBS** OTTAWA COTTAGE & BACKYARD SHOW EY Centre, April 8-10  
**GLS** GREEN LIVING SHOW Metro Toronto Convention Centre, April 15-17

## Partner Producers

Take a look at these creative and innovative businesses that feature Ontario wood.



### Baker Brothers

Pickering

416-899-7049 • bakerbrothers@bell.net

www.bakerbrothers.ca **CLS** **GLS**

In 2012, Blair Baker set up his custom carpentry business focusing on creating handcrafted furniture (including benches, stools, chairs, tables, and lighting), using primarily reclaimed Ontario wood. Recently Blair had a chance to work with a piece of Canadian history: he was selected as one of the winning designers competing to handcraft a unique piece using wood from the Maple Leaf Forever tree! "I thrive on the satisfaction of designing and building something that can be appreciated for generations to come," says Blair.



### Lakeview Canoe Company

Mississauga

416-518-2671

www.lakeviewcanoecompany.ca **CLS**

Ask Peter Code of Lakeview Canoe Company what he does and he'll tell you about the joys of creating beautiful watercraft from a pile of rough-sawn lumber, using traditional methods (and some "strategic use" of modern paints and epoxies). "I enjoy the challenge of using my experience and know-how—and a lot of

steam!—to create a fine watercraft." Not only do they build beautifully executed cedar-molded canoes, Lakeview is a go-to shop for repair and restoration of family treasures and even historic wooden boats of different types.

### Muma Fine Woodworking

Stratford

wayne@muma.ca • Mumawayne.blogspot.ca

Instagram: #waynemuma **CLS**

Since 2009, Wayne Muma has been creating bespoke and reproduction furniture, natural-edged tables, boutique flooring, distinctive mantles, unique countertops, and more. Often customers come to him to salvage a beloved tree, preserving it in beautiful and functional forms to be passed down through the generations. Wayne is inspired, he says, "by the challenge of design and creating unique joinery... always focused on building objects of lasting quality." His products can be found in shops and shows around the province.



### Once Upon A Tree

Kitchener

trevor@onceuponatree.ca • www.onceuponatree.ca

Facebook: onceuponatreeCA

For the past eight years, Trevor Ewert of Once Upon A Tree has been working with wood, "a material I love—for its grain, figure and natural beauty." Known for his live-edge natural serving boards, bowls and butcher blocks, Trevor creates fascinating organic forms that are aesthetically pleasing and yet practical and useful. Once Upon A Tree uses local and sustainably harvested wood obtained from arborists and from nearby Mennonite sawmills. Consumers can find his work in kitchen supply stores, gift shops and restaurants throughout Ontario.



### Rustic Works

Toronto

[RusticWorksDesigns@gmail.com](mailto:RusticWorksDesigns@gmail.com) • [www.RusticWorks.ca](http://www.RusticWorks.ca)

Instagram: [RusticWorksBarrie](#) [CLS](#) [GLS](#)

Keith Tribe creates custom barn-board frames for artwork, prints, canvas, mirrors, chalkboards... you name it. Thanks to the unique features of every weathered board, each frame is completely one-of-a-kind and can be as large or small as you need. "Unlike the average carpenter, my craft relies on nothing being uniform!" says Keith, who loves drawing out each piece's history and character to complement a customer's specific needs. Available in select stores, artist galleries, photography studios or can be made-to-order.



### 1867 Confederation Log + Timber Frame

Bobcaygeon

[705-738-5131](tel:705-738-5131) • [info@confederationloghomes.com](mailto:info@confederationloghomes.com)

[www.confederationloghomes.com](http://www.confederationloghomes.com) [CLS](#)

For nearly 40 years, this award-winning firm has been designing and building custom log and timber frame homes and cottages. The focus is on the customer, right from the start. "So people can see the quality of workmanship provided by our trained craftsmen, we open up our workshop anytime for viewing," says owner Rick

Kinsman. "We design a plan for each customer and take time to actually walk-through the design, using sophisticated software, to meet our customer's needs and wishes."

### Portal Studio

Toronto

[416-735-5431](tel:416-735-5431) • [emiliportal@gmail.com](mailto:emiliportal@gmail.com) • [www.portalstudio.ca](http://www.portalstudio.ca) [GLS](#)

Emilio Portal designs and handcrafts fine wood objects, furniture and millwork, making everything from utensils to surfaces, from seating and tables to custom shelving and interiors. "I am always seeking the timeless, poetic and ecologically responsible path," says Emilio. As well as having a presence at major consumer shows and studio visits by appointment, Portal Studio's website now features an online store. Emilio enjoys taking on commissions as well. "Every new project creates unique challenges, creating situations of continuous adaptation, learning and growth."



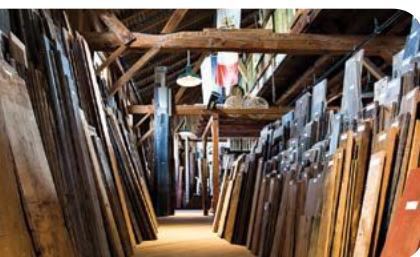
### Algonquin Pod Company

Barry's Bay

[613-756-7920](tel:613-756-7920) • [www.algonquinpodcompany.com](http://www.algonquinpodcompany.com)

Facebook: [PodCamping](#)

Since 2012, Algonquin Pod Company has been creating custom, prefabricated, patented, wooden tent-like structures called "The Pod"™. Says proprietor Craig Kelley: "The European camping sensation can now be experienced in North America. Available for purchase by campgrounds and property owners alike, the Pod is a comfortable, secure and surprisingly affordable pre-fabricated method for creating unique getaway experiences for your guests. This is camping for the 21st century!" The Pods are created sustainably using responsibly harvested wood from local mills and recycled steel.



### The Timeless Material Co.

Waterloo

[1-800-609-9633](tel:1-800-609-9633) • [info@timelessmaterials.com](mailto:info@timelessmaterials.com)

[www.timelessmaterials.com](http://www.timelessmaterials.com)

For more than 30 years, Timeless Material's craftsmen have been providing architects, contractors, and fine woodworkers with the rustic beauty and character of reclaimed wood.

They supply both "as-is" and custom-milled for a range of

applications, including stair treads, table tops, moldings, doors, ceiling and wall cladding, wainscoting, furniture, cabinetry, mantles and other more. With retail showrooms in Waterloo and Southampton, customers can see "the true beauty of the materials... created over years and years of nature's hard work."



### barnboardstore.com

Toronto

[416-471-9452](tel:416-471-9452) • [sales@barnboardstore.com](mailto:sales@barnboardstore.com)

[www.barnboardstore.com](http://www.barnboardstore.com)

barnboardstore.com offers a huge selection of reclaimed lumber, barn board, and live-edge slabs out of a retail showroom and work-space in East Toronto. In addition, they make one-of-a-kind, character pieces from reclaimed wood for residential and commercial clients. This includes dining tables, conference tables, restaurant decor, reception desks, coffee tables and headboards—pieces that will last a lifetime from material that is often already more than a century old.





### Cherrywood Studio

King  
416-254-8974 • [info@cherrywoodstudio.ca](mailto:info@cherrywoodstudio.ca)  
[www.cherrywoodstudio.ca](http://www.cherrywoodstudio.ca) **CLS**

Cherrywood Studio creates custom contemporary hardwood furniture using locally sourced, large urban hardwood trees that would otherwise be

destined for landfill sites. These trees are transformed into singular pieces of fine contemporary furniture. As well as custom hardwood tables, they craft kitchen and vanity tops, shelves and mantels. "We create furniture pieces that are works of art and nature. And we bring our clients into the process so that creating this new heirloom is a special experience for them too," says co-owner Barb Benoit.

### Brothers Dressler

Toronto  
416-910-5892 • [info@brothersdressler.com](mailto:info@brothersdressler.com)  
[www.brothersdressler.com](http://www.brothersdressler.com)

Brothers Dressler is an award-winning designer and manufacturer. "We make furniture, lighting, objects and installations," says Lars. "We produce our own line of custom and small-batch wood furniture and lighting fixtures along with accessories, feature walls, art installations, and structures. We create modern heirloom pieces focusing on craftsmanship and using responsibly sourced materials. Each piece is originally designed with emphasis on the material and its inherent beauty." Contact the brothers through their website and purchase directly from their studio in downtown Toronto.



### Daniel Daigle Fine Woodworking

Cobourg  
905-373-2699 • [ddfww2@gmail.com](mailto:ddfww2@gmail.com)  
[www.danieldaiglefinewoodworking.com](http://www.danieldaiglefinewoodworking.com)

Daniel Daigle Fine Woodworking was established in 1990 and, over the years, Daniel has become known for custom-designing individual pieces to meet the needs of each client. Daniel's knowledge of furniture design, enables him to incorporate balanced proportions and architectural details, leaving each customer with a one-of-a-kind piece. Built-in wall units, vanities and mantels to armoires, sideboards and tables can all be designed and built to compliment existing styles or made to stand on their own.



### Davidson Log & Timber Artisans Inc.

Washago  
705-330-9883 • [info@davidsonloghomes.com](mailto:info@davidsonloghomes.com)  
[www.davidsonloghomes.com](http://www.davidsonloghomes.com) **CLS**

A design/build company for handcrafted log and timber frame homes since 2000, Davidson Log & Timber Artisans works very closely with clients to design and build the structure of their dreams, be it Scandinavian full scribe, post and beam, timber frame, or their signature style,

Norwegian Dovetail (full-scribe dovetail that eliminates the need for mortar between the logs). "Our clients describe our products as living works of art... that you live in!," says Matt Davidson.

### Forever Interiors

Toronto  
416-291-2001 • [www.foreverinteriors.com](http://www.foreverinteriors.com) **CLS**

Established in 2005, Forever Interiors is all about reusing and custom-building furniture and décor from reclaimed material. Their specialty: making furniture from reclaimed doors. This includes coffee tables, cabinets, pantries, benches, kitchen islands, vanities, sliding doors and a lot more. They build a wide selection of rustic tables, harvest tables and steel-framed tables from century-old reclaimed pine or fir. "We are reinventing used furniture... into new and eclectic furniture," says owner Martin Scott. Check out their work online or at their shop in Toronto's Junction area.



### Haliburton Forest & Wild Life Reserve Ltd.

The Wood Shop in Haliburton: 705-754-0556 • [woodshop@haliburtonforest.com](mailto:woodshop@haliburtonforest.com)  
The Forest Store Huntsville: 705-789-2003 • [storehuntsville@haliburtonforest.com](mailto:storehuntsville@haliburtonforest.com)  
The Forest Store: 705-457-2000 • [storehaliburton@haliburtonforest.com](mailto:storehaliburton@haliburtonforest.com)  
[www.haliburtonforest.com](http://www.haliburtonforest.com) • Online store: [foreststoreonline.haliburtonforest.com](http://foreststoreonline.haliburtonforest.com) **CLS**



Haliburton Forest is a unique, privately owned multi-use operation with wilderness adventure activities, and a thriving sustainable logging operation. They operate their own sawmill, a wood shop and two Forest Stores offering anything related to forest products. This includes dimensional timbers and lumber of various sizes and species, and finished products including bowls, and unique or customized furniture, gift items and one-of-a-kind, artistic wooden objects. Products are made using one of the 25 different tree species harvested on the reserve, from stunning red cherry or flaming birch, to vibrant birdseye and curly maple.







### Hamilton Holmes Woodworking and Design

Hamilton

905-577-2488 • [n.hamilton.holmes@gmail.com](mailto:n.hamilton.holmes@gmail.com)

[www.hamiltonholmes.com](http://www.hamiltonholmes.com) • Instagram: @hamiltonholmes

Facebook: Hamilton Holmes Woodworking and Design

From beautiful simple rattles to modern tables, Hamilton Holmes Woodworking and Design designs and builds custom

furniture, frames, children's toys as well as millwork and cabinets. "We try to take the best aspects of old, and produce them in a style that's more contemporary," says owner Nicholas Hamilton Holmes. The business does a lot of custom work with interior designers, but specifically creates products for younger people just starting their own home spaces. Offering heirloom quality work since 2012, they've recently put much effort into their online showcase and store.

### Hay Bay Woodworks

Napanee

613-373-9334 • [sexsmithd@gmail.com](mailto:sexsmithd@gmail.com)

Etsy: HayBayWoodworks

As a woodlot owner and member of the Ontario Woodlot Association, David Sexsmith works the wood all the way from tree planting, harvesting, slow-drying and milling—all aspects of the process, from tree to table, occur on site.

"Over the years," says David, "I have designed and produced cedar garden architecture, one-of-a-kind custom tables, carved burl vessels as well as basic wooden kitchenware. Because I work with the natural edge, no two pieces are ever the same." Check him out on Etsy.



### Live Edged Woodcraft

Cannington/Georgina

289-221-1174 • [livedgedwoodcraft@gmail.com](mailto:livedgedwoodcraft@gmail.com)

[www.livedgedwoodcraft.ca](http://www.livedgedwoodcraft.ca)

Started in 2012, Live Edged Woodcraft began by making placemats, then added serving boards, tables, and candle-holders. Today, they have a wide range of products, including the ever-popular live-edged cheese boards in reclaimed

cherry, black walnut, elm, ash, and maple. Says co-owner Bill Major, "In all of our work, key themes are natural, eco-friendly, and reclaimed. We only use trees that have to be cut down. We believe that we are co-creators with nature, re-purposing its beautiful wood creations for our customers' pleasure."

### Lubo

Toronto

[info@lubodesign.com](mailto:info@lubodesign.com) • [www.lubodesign.com](http://www.lubodesign.com) GLS

Since 2000, Lubo Brezina has been a "wood architect," designing and making custom furniture and more, including reclaimed wood tables and benches, masks, sculptural installations and commercial lighting. Located on Toronto's happening Dundas Street West, Lubo showcases his new products and cool experiments in a storefront window. Lubo says, "I love working with wood. It is a material unlike any other. It is warm to the touch, beautiful to look at and always surprising when the grain is revealed."



### Joseph Emil Design

St-Eugene

613-864-9665 • [emil@josephemildesign.cool](mailto:emil@josephemildesign.cool)

[www.josephemildesign.cool](http://www.josephemildesign.cool)

Established in 2009, near Hawkesbury, Joseph Emil Design, makes all types of custom residential and commercial furniture. "My first steps into woodworking were in antiques restoration. As an apprentice, I learned from the works of past masters—intricate joinery, finely pressed veneers, and sweet inlays. Today, using, shaping and forming raw lumber into a fully functioning and beautiful piece of furniture is like being the conductor of an orchestra: the wood makes its own music... with my guidance," says Emil.



### Martin C. Vendryes Wodworking

Vienna

226-377-9969 • [info@mcvendryes.ca](mailto:info@mcvendryes.ca) • [www.mcvendryes.ca](http://www.mcvendryes.ca)

Martin Vendryes began woodworking professionally in 1985 but it was in 2010 that he moved to the country, southeast of London, and set up his own fine furniture studio. There he makes solid wood one-of-a-kind tables, chairs, cabinets, accessories and mill-work. Using traditional equipment and hand tools, he blends Arts & Crafts design sense with modern aesthetic influences, while highlighting the organic beauty of live-edge, wormy and spalted slab surfaces. Visit his website to learn more.





### Rescue

Collingwood

**leannemackle@me.com • Facebook: rescuewoodart**

**Instagram: @rescuedesign** **OCBS**

Leanne Mackle creates unique pieces of hand-painted art, custom furniture and wood-work for homes and cottages from “rescued” local, one-of-a-kind wood. She’s been up-cycling since 2010: working with materials that predominately spend their existence outdoors, says Leanne, “Each piece I use, whether it’s broken, bent, cracked or has knots can find its way into one of my pieces.” Recently she opened the Red Barn Studio, where she works directly with clients to create their own unique piece. Look for Rescue at upcoming shows and in galleries and stores around Ontario.



### TimberArtCnc

Rockwood

**519-856-4766 • www.LiveEdgeDecor.com** **CLS**

“Forty years ago my grandpa explained to me that the hammer would perform better for me if I stopped choking it,” remembers TimberArt’s Marcel Brosseau. “Eventually, with help from my dad I learned how to use hand saws, hacksaws, chisels, wood lathes and routers. Since then, some will say, technology has changed everything. But one thing I know hasn’t changed is how it feels

when we experience something carefully handmade from wood.” Marcel’s current focus is on turning large wood slabs into tables, bar and counter tops, serving and cheese boards and live-edge furniture.

### The Turning Point

Echo Bay

**705-248-1545 • errol.helene@gmail.com • www.theturningpoint.ca**

**Facebook: turningpoint47 • Etsy: caldwellturnings** **OCBS**

Errol Caldwell started The Turning Point in 1998, creating one-of-a-kind and functional woodturnings: bowls, plates, platters, hollow forms, candleholders, tealights, oil lamps, and bottle stoppers, “all made in my shop by me,” Errol says. Not far from Sault Ste-Marie, his shop includes a showroom that is open by appointment, or you can check out his work on the business’ website, on Etsy or Facebook. Items are also available at various art shows and galleries around Ontario.



### Timberworks

Barrie

**705-726-2638 • timberworks@rogers.com**

**www.timberworkswoodturning.com**

Proprietor Arnold Veen loves to make one-of-a-kind wooden bowls—with live edges or in the traditional style—from Ontario woods and burls. It gives him a chance, he says, to explore and discover its nature. “My products are one of a kind, unique to the tree from which it was harvested, showing the extraordinary features found in wood. Of course, wood-turning is a long and laborious process, requiring choosing the right pieces years in advance to ensure that I have the right selection for my customers.”



### Steven Henderson Design

Toronto

**416-537-9115 • steven@stevenhendersonprojects.ca**

**www.stevenhendersonprojects.ca** **GLS**

Steven Henderson has been designing and building finely crafted objects, furniture and installations since 2005, working primarily in solid wood and metal. “I have a fascination for how simple, careful and intelligently engineered details create both a unique aesthetic and enduring individual pieces,” says Steven, “From the first meeting with the client to making and finishing the piece, the design process informs shape, fusing creative ideas from both parties with practical considerations. From this process special pieces are born....”



### True North Log Homes Inc.

Bracebridge

**800-661-1628 • Info@truenorthloghomes.com**

**www.truenorthloghomes.com** **CLS**

Now in its 30th year, True North Log Homes is a leader in log, timber frame and conventional log-sided building design and construction. The company holds 18 different patents in the US and Canada. The majority of their customers, says CEO Robert Wrightman, has dreamed about living in a log home ... but are concerned about energy efficiency and maintenance. “Through our continual development and extensive research and development program, we have created the world’s most advanced log home system, including a zero-air infiltration warranty.”







### Goodwood Products

Uxbridge

647-967-0749 • [gdwdproducts@gmail.com](mailto:gdwdproducts@gmail.com) [CLS](#) [GLS](#)

In 2015, two young wilderness-loving entrepreneurs named Nick Hill and Jordan Irwin started Goodwood with one goal. Using only fallen trees, they create a variety of beautiful and unique products, from live-edge serving platters, tables, knife blocks, to a wide range of decorative pieces. Jordan's experience as a chef, informs their products created specifically for the kitchen. "Each and every piece of wood is different," says Nick, "and witnessing the transformation from a rough, raw and natural material to a beautiful, unique and usable piece is a special thing."



### Woodmill of Muskoka

Gravenhurst

705-687-5959 • [www.thewoodmill.ca](http://www.thewoodmill.ca) [CLS](#)

Ron McKay is the owner of Woodmill of Muskoka – a four-acre showroom and workshop on Highway 11. "We feature products made in accord with only the best, authentic design principles," says Ron. "And if we don't have what you need, we will build it for you." Woodmill works with a wide array of materials, from Ontario white pine and western red cedar sourced from renewable sources and, increasingly, maintenance-free high density polyethylene (HDPE) recycled plastic. "Customers concerned about the environment can feel confident they have made a good decision by purchasing our products."



### The Backyard Urban Farm Company

Toronto

647-290-2572 • [info@bufco.ca](mailto:info@bufco.ca)

[www.bufco.ca](http://www.bufco.ca) [GLS](#)

Since 2009, the Backyard Urban Farm Company has been building, installing, planting and maintaining edible gardens in homes, schools and businesses in Toronto. Their mission: to ignite people's passion for growing their own food. They offer a variety of raised garden beds available in standard sizes or custom built to order. "Ontario eastern white cedar is our material of choice for its environmental benefits—natural rot resistance, renewability, the responsible manner in which it is harvested... plus, it looks and smells great!" says Marc.



### Kaza Wood Furniture

Stoney Creek

905-962-2343 • [marcus@kazawoodfurniture.ca](mailto:marcus@kazawoodfurniture.ca)

[www.kazawoodfurniture.ca](http://www.kazawoodfurniture.ca)

Facebook/Instagram: [kazawoodfurniture](#) [CLS](#) [GLS](#)

Kaza Wood Furniture designs, constructs and finishes custom solid wood furniture and accessories: dining, coffee, side and utility tables, book shelves, entertainment units, candle holders and a lot more. "We work with our clients to make sure each piece is a perfect fit for their needs," says Marcus. "And everything we do is designed to be practical, durable, versatile as well as beautiful." Check out their website for an up-to-date list of retailers and shows and markets where they will be present.



## Forestry Connects

**Forestry Connects** ([www.forestsonario.ca/index.php/forest\\_connects](http://www.forestsonario.ca/index.php/forest_connects)) provides Ontario students and educators with an introduction to the sector by enabling them to get out in the field to observe operations first hand. Students and teachers get to see harvesting operations, visit local mills, learn about wildlife habitat and tree identification, and meet with foresters, First Nations, operators, biologists, members of local communities, park staff and local government. Participants will gain a better appreciation for the complexity of forest management. The program will ensure there's a future generation of Ontarians working to protect our forests and the high quality industries and jobs they support across the province.



# Wood for all Reasons

## A User's Guide to the Trees of Ontario



In the vastness of Ontario's forests lives a variety of native trees, a living example of species biodiversity. Through careful harvesting in a sustainable and responsible way, our forests are a source for diverse and eco-friendly wood to be used in a broad range of applications and styles. When you choose locally made Ontario wood products for home renovations, furnishings and more, you are making a choice that is good for the environment and good for the local economy.

If you are not sure what kind of wood to use on your home improvement project, Ontario Wood has created a handy reference to the many common types of wood found in Ontario. You can find this and more on line at

[www.ontario.ca/page/types-ontario-wood](http://www.ontario.ca/page/types-ontario-wood).

### Softwoods

*Used in structural and finishing applications, everything from pulp and paper and construction to furniture, snowshoes and Christmas trees!*

#### Black spruce

- most common tree in Ontario, more than 37% of the province's growing stock
- primarily for pulp and paper and for lumber and other solid-wood products

#### Eastern white cedar

- a slow-growing tree that prefers swampy areas, also found on rocky upland sites
- resistant to rot so used for shake shingles, fence posts, decks, canoes and boats

#### Eastern hemlock

- found in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence and deciduous forest regions in cool moist soils near water
- used for lumber and railway ties and is often planted as an ornamental tree

#### Jack pine

- found throughout Ontario
- most often used for dimensional lumber as well as to make pulp and paper

#### Red pine

- common throughout central and southern Ontario and in the northwest
- traditionally been used to make poles and lumber, pale red to reddish brown

#### Tamarack (also known as larch)

- found throughout Ontario but is more common in the north
- tough yet flexible and has been used for lumber, pulp, poles and snowshoes

#### Eastern white pine (Ontario's official tree)

- found throughout central and southern Ontario
- long been used for trim, furniture and lumber, and has a light white, knotty wood

#### White spruce

- throughout Ontario, common in the Boreal forest, on dry to fresh upland sites
- dimensional lumber; also used in pulp and paper and a popular Christmas tree

### Hardwoods

*Ideal in interior, decorative applications, from firewood, flooring and lumber to cabinetry, furniture frames, panels and toys.*

#### Ash

- common across Ontario, have been harmed dramatically by emerald ash borer, especially the southwest
- hard and strong, used for tool handles, bats, furniture, and an excellent firewood

#### Basswood (also known as linden)

- found throughout the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence and deciduous forest regions
- used for lumber, picture frames and toys, as well as baskets and plywood

#### American beech

- throughout the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence and deciduous forest regions, common in the south
- a tough heavy wood and has been traditionally used for flooring and furniture

#### Black cherry

- up to 22-m. tall in the south; in the north, it is smaller, shrub-like
- used for fine furniture — cabinets, tables, desks, chairs, paneling and for musical instruments

#### Black walnut

- found across southern Ontario
- hard, heavy, coarse-grained, attractive so highly valued for furniture, veneers and interior finishing

#### Hickory

- found across southern Ontario
- used for furniture, flooring and specialty applications like ladder rungs, athletic and gym equipment

#### Red maple (soft maple)

- found in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence and deciduous forest regions
- known for its brilliant red leaves in autumn, often planted as an ornamental

#### Sugar maple (hard maple)

- common in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence forest
- well known for syrup; its white wood is used for furniture, flooring and firewood

#### White oak (bur)

- found in scattered groupings throughout the Great Lake-St. Lawrence Forest region
- a durable, high-quality lumber used in flooring, veneer, furniture, boats and barrel making

#### Red oak

- a common hardwood species in central and southern Ontario
- the hard, reddish brown wood is highly valued for trim, flooring or furniture

#### Yellow birch

- a common hardwood across the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence forest
- used in furniture, cabinet making, plywood and doors, also popular as firewood

#### Poplar (or trembling aspen)

- a common tree throughout Ontario
- used in composite board products, as well as for pulp and paper

#### White birch

- common throughout Ontario, beloved "paper" birch with its smooth, white paper-like bark
- used as firewood, valued for veneer, pulp and specialty products like hockey sticks





## HOW GREEN IS YOUR HOME?

For most of us home is our refuge, our "comfort zone." It is the place where we can be safe and warm in an environment over which we believe we have complete control. But people might be surprised to learn of the many health hazards we encounter in our own households every day.

In cleaning products, there are fragrances bearing phthalates, potentially harmful preservatives like parabens and many unfamiliar chemicals. The alternatives? Look for natural cleaning products based on organic essential oils, known for anti-viral, anti-bacterial properties and without mysterious chemicals. There are options neither toxic to humans nor to the planet.

But there is much less attention being paid to the materials we use when updating or renovating our homes, from paints and finishes, to carpets and flooring, even drywall mud.

**"Nobody is regulating, nobody is looking out for you"**

According to Chris Magwood, founder and director of The Endeavour Centre in Peterborough, Ontario, a not-for-profit sustainability school, most Canadians assume government regulations prevent unhealthy products being used in our home environments. And they would be wrong. "In general, people feel that there are adequate protections in place... that is absolutely not the case.

Nobody is regulating, nobody is looking out for you," says Magwood. "It is up to you to ensure you have a healthy home." Even something like non-VOC paints: consumers assume they are healthier in the house, but in fact, while they are healthier for the planet, they are no safer for you. There are building products currently on the market that contain known carcinogens and endocrine disruptors, and some that off-gas volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that can cause immediate and long term lung and sinus irritation.

There are healthier choices available, from insulation made from recycled denim to non-toxic, water-based stains and sealers to plant based-epoxy



systems. But homeowners need to their homework. Contractors and tradespeople often are often unaware of the hazards and the alternatives but things are improving. Magwood says several new databases have recently appeared online, helping consumers make smart, healthy choices of carpets, paints, floor finishes and more.

(One recent example is [www.quartzproject.org](http://www.quartzproject.org).) Magwood's school website is a good place to start as it offers a range of useful information and links: [endeavourcentre.org](http://endeavourcentre.org), [quartzproject.org](http://quartzproject.org), [ecocert.ca](http://ecocert.ca) and [eco-building.ca](http://eco-building.ca) are also good resources.

With sufficient motivation and effort we can find the information and products to ensure our home environments are healthy for their inhabitants and the materials and supplies in them are healthy for the environment we all share. ■

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# GOING ELECTRIC

## MORE AND MORE DRIVERS ARE PLUGGING INTO EVS

**H**ere's some need-to-know info: roughly one quarter of all greenhouse gas emissions come from the transportation sector: CO2 emissions from internal combustion engines burning petroleum products. And the largest source of transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions, more than half, is cars and light trucks. This despite technological advances and efficiencies introduced over the last 25 years. Indeed, even with these advances greenhouse gas emissions from transportation have actually increased over that time period - and even more than was publicly reported.

Clearly then, moving to a more sustainable transportation model is critical for reducing our carbon footprint, slowing climate change and to create a healthier environment for the future. An essential part of that move will have to include more electric

vehicles (EVs) on our roads.

To date there have been a several barriers to adoption by the general public: electric vehicles cost significantly more than conventional vehicles; "range anxiety"—the fear of running down batteries without access to fast and handy charging stations; and a general lack of understanding and awareness of the present state of the technology.

This is beginning to change, thanks to the education and incentive efforts of manufacturers, industry associations and, importantly as there are significant infrastructure implications, government agencies and programs which are providing both infrastructure support and purchase incentives. EVs have been available in Ontario since 2010, but really it is only now that drivers in the province are embracing the technology.



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Ontario's Electric Vehicle Incentive program was recently updated to contribute increased rebates for lower-priced eligible EVs (and while offering less for expensive "luxury" or prestige EVs). You can see the full list of eligible cars and SUVs at [www.mto.gov.on.ca](http://www.mto.gov.on.ca).

Of course the greatest logistical challenge to EVs is range of travel. Recently, several manufacturers' battery technologies have been improved, allowing for greater distances on a single charge than ever before. In addition, there's been progress in the creation of a province-wide network of fast-charging stations, partly thanks to the Ontario government's Electric Vehicle Chargers Ontario program, which is spending \$20 million over the next year to install hundreds of fast chargers province-wide.

EVs are ideal for the urban setting: their range easily exceeds the average travelled by commuters and there are more charging opportunities in parking lots and businesses than ever before.



And since all fully electric cars and plug-in hybrids have battery packs that are charged by plugging into a standard electrical outlet, there's actually far less chance of being stranded in an EV than a gas-powered vehicle. What's more, charging overnight at Hydro's lower-cost off-peak hours can save EV owners a lot of money. With typical use, an EV reduces annual fuel costs between \$2,500-\$3,000 when compared to gasoline - and the benefits don't end there. EVs require less service, get preferential parking spots in some of our busiest parking lots and have free access to HOV lanes. Now, with more than a dozen EV models on the road, the move toward a sustainable low carbon transportation model is really picking up speed. ■

*Test drive an EV at the Green Living Show!  
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[live.savingsbydesign.ca](http://live.savingsbydesign.ca)