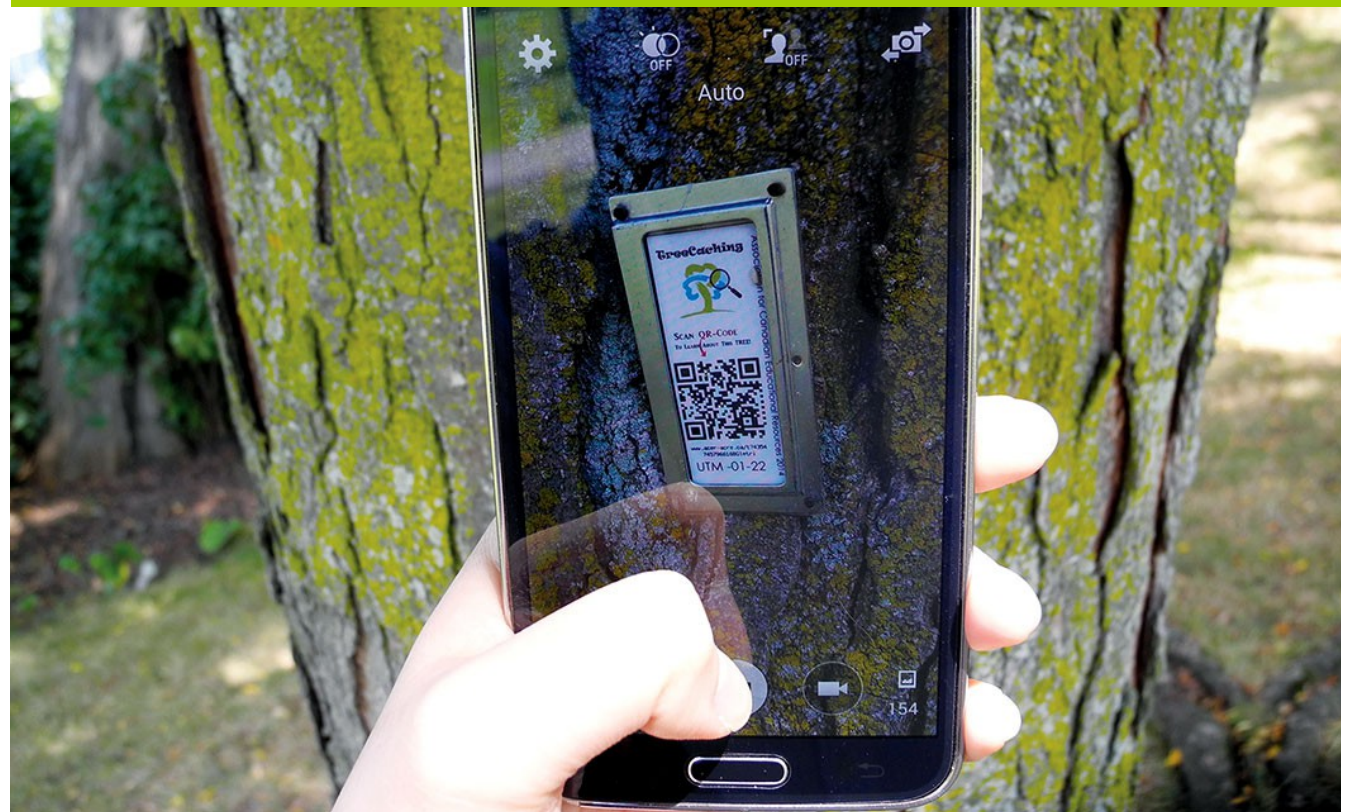


TreeCaching™

A self-guided nature walk for all ages!

Find out about how your cell phone can help you learn about the trees growing in your area.





Using technology to bring us closer to our environment.

“Just scan it!”

Developed by ACER, TreeCaching™ is a simple and fun outdoors activity that encourages young people (or anyone for that matter!) to identify and learn about trees.

TreeCaching is a tagging system that uses QR code technology to access a web page housing information for a particular tree along a featured trail. It provides opportunities for trail users to embark on a self-guided tour of the landscape, while learning about native trees, possibly invasive tree species, and their environmental functions. Its primary function is to help connect young people with their natural environment using tools they are most attached to. Benefits to the user include increased physical activity, improving mental health and community engagement. Benefits to the TreeCached host trail include increased interest in walking the trail, this special feature to attract the youth demographic, an additional activity for people already on the grounds

(golf courses, for example, or college campuses). The process of having ACER install a treecaching trail on your property involves:

- Scoping out the trail (minimum of one kilometer), selecting the trees (minimum of 15 per trail)
- Creating a web page for each tree that will link the tree to the QR code
- Producing and installing the tags on the trees
- Performing quality checks on all tags
- Produce a webpage for your site.

Annual maintenance can be provided. If you are interested in having a trail on your property treecached, please call Mike McMillan at 905-891-6004.

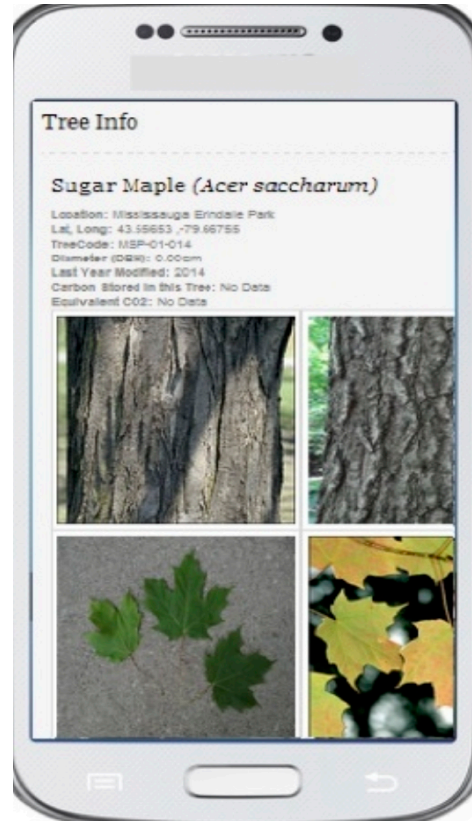
Trails currently treecached include Erindale Park, Riverwood Conservancy, Sheridan College (Davis Campus and Oakville Campus), and U of T (Mississauga). ACER is currently installing four trails for the Toronto Region and Conservation Authority (TRCA).



Scan it.

Find a tree that's tagged with a QR code on the treecached trail. We've picked trees that are close to the trails and easily spotted. With your smartphone or tablet*, download a free QR Code Reader (App Store or Play Store). Scan the QR code using this app. You will be redirected to a unique webpage that has information about the tree you've found, including a tree ID guide and interesting facts.

*If you don't have a device, write down the URL below the code, go to your computer and type it in on the internet browser.



See it.

This is the page you see when you scan the QR code. The information is specific to the tree you've scanned. It includes information on the tree's species. The screenshot above, for example, has information about the Sugar Maple. It tells you how to identify a sugar maple based on leaf, flower, fruit, twig, and bark.

The page will also tell you the tree's GPS coordinates, diameter at breast height (DBH) and the amount of carbon stored in the tree.



Find more trees.

At the bottom of the web page, there is a link to a map indicating your location and other QR-coded trees nearby. Use this for your self-guided nature walk.



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