



# The climate is changing and so are Canada's forests

Here are 6 ways Canada's forest sector and communities are adapting.



## Fire-proofing neighbourhoods and communities

As fire activity in many regions increases, communities and homeowners are conducting hazard assessments and following FireSmart recommendations – for example, selecting fire-resistant plants with moist, supple leaves for landscaping and removing potential fuel such as dry grasses and dead branches from around homes.



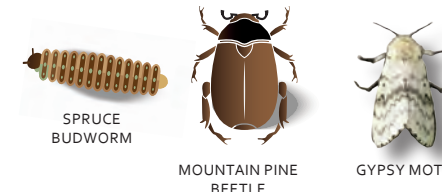
## Planting tree species with greater drought tolerance

Drought conditions reduce tree growth and productivity and can lead to tree mortality. Researchers are studying plant traits to identify tree species with greater drought tolerance and increased ability to reproduce following drought.



## Planting trees from a wider range of seed sources to maintain productivity

A tree planted today will mature in a warmer climate and may not grow as well in that regime. Foresters are therefore planting seedlings from a range of seed sources, favouring species from southern or lower-elevation populations – sources already adapted to warmer conditions.



## Adjusting forest harvest schedules to minimize severe insect damage

As the incidence of severe insect infestations increases, foresters can adjust harvest schedules to remove vulnerable stands of trees ahead of pest attacks and harvest insect-damaged trees to maintain overall stand health.

## Reducing damage to forests from wind storms

As temperatures warm, the early thaw and delayed freezing of soils provide less support for tree roots, making them more prone to uprooting during spring and fall wind storms in eastern Canada. Silviculture techniques such as varying the size and shape of harvest blocks and leaving patches can help reduce forest vulnerability to wind damage.



## Finding ways to use the wood from dead and damaged trees

To offset the effects of damage to forests caused by insect and disease outbreaks, forest companies are salvage-logging and adjusting wood-processing techniques to create new products from dead and lower-quality trees.

