


Healthy Maple Forests: Sugaring Off Forever!

For more information about best environmental practices, see the guidebook published by the MRNF
(distribution code 2003-3107, French version only)

www.mmf.gouv.qc.ca/publications/forets/amenagement/erablieries-2004.pdf

Contributing to biodiversity

- **Companion trees (yellow birch, eastern white pine, white ash, etc.):** maple forests more resistant to climate, insects and diseases.
- **Big or small tree debris:** good habitats for a large number of animal and plant species (salamanders, small mammals, insects, mosses, mushrooms, etc.).
- **A few snags here and there:** environments attracting useful predators (woodpeckers, owls, etc.).

Exploiting without spoiling

- **Sugar houses and equipment in compliance with regulations:** no water contamination.
- **Adapted machinery for moving around:** good performance without soil compaction or wounded trees.
- **Well built and well kept roads and culverts:** fewer erosion problems and more unpolluted streams.

Intervening nature's way

- **Creating small openings in the canopy every 15 to 20 years:** trees of all ages.
- **Protecting regeneration at all times:** many more trees for the future.

Photography: ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune and J.-F. Bergeron / ENVO (ENR picture)

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