



## Reducing Single Use Plastic Wrap in Reforestation Projects

We are pleased to announce that BC Timber Sales (BCTS) is taking a significant step towards safety and sustainability by significantly reducing the use of single-use plastics to wrap seedlings. We are proud to take this step that will positively impact our environment and the well-being of those who work in the seedling industry and appreciate your support in this endeavor.

Wrapping seedlings has long been a standard practice, however this method is the leading cause of musculoskeletal injuries in nurseries. Additionally, the use of plastic wrap for BC seedling packaging alone contributes approximately 12.1 million meters (18,000 kg) of non-recyclable waste to landfills annually.

By eliminating plastic wrap, we aim to mitigate the risk of injuries associated with wrapping seedlings and prioritize the well-being all who work in the seedling industry. Moreover, this change aligns with sustainability goals outlined in the [Climate Change Action Strategy](#). Recognizing the urgency to address concerns regarding single use plastics, we have taken inspiration from successful practices in other jurisdictions. During a recent trip to Timmins, Ontario, our Seedling Services Staff observed the operational-scale use of no-wrap seedlings in planting operations. This firsthand experience, coupled with discussions with industry and nursery representatives, reaffirmed the viability and benefits of this approach.

This change in process will begin in the fall of 2023 with our pine, spruce and cedar seedlings and will expand from there in future years. Please note that the health of the tree is our number one priority, and we will not take any measures that compromise the health of the seedlings.

We understand that this transition represents a change in process, and we are committed to supporting you throughout this shift. We encourage you to share this information with your teams and other relevant stakeholders, ensuring that everyone is aware of the revised packaging procedure. Should you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact your local area representative.

Together, we can make a difference. By embracing sustainable practices and prioritizing the safety of our workforce, we are contributing to a greener and healthier future in forestry. We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to your continued support as we implement this important change.

Thank you for your attention and ongoing partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Stratton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Len Stratton, RPF  
Director, Sustainability and Forestry  
BC Timber Sales - Provincial Operations