

## What is a maple sugary lease?

A maple sugary lease is a non-fibre forestry lease which allows the lessee to collect sap, transform sap and sell maple products.

## Can I lease Crown lands for a maple sugary? How do I apply?

Yes. You must first submit a proposal in response to the Department's Request for Proposals (RFP). Any person over the legal age of 19 years or any company registered to do business in New Brunswick is eligible to respond to a RFP.

## What is the term of a maple sugary lease?

Maple sugary or non-fibre forestry leases are issued for a 10-year term.

## How much does it cost to apply?

There is a non-refundable application fee of \$300.00 plus HST together with any costs incurred in the preparation and presentation of the proposal.

## When are RFPs advertised?

An RFP is anticipated to be released during the fall of 2012. Over the next five years, up to 825 additional hectares of Crown lands may be allocated toward maple sugary production.

## What is the RFP process?

DNR will assess proposals based on established evaluation criteria. Proposals not meeting minimum requirements will be rejected without further consideration. A committee will assess all proposals meeting the minimum requirements. The clients who submit the best proposals that meet all minimal requirements may be offered a lease agreement. This assessment phase could take from 6 to 8 weeks. Once a decision has been made, DNR will advise the successful client who will have up to 3 weeks to accept the offer.

## Can I increase the area of my existing maple sugary lease?

### Operational Requirements:

Minor modifications, up to 1 ha in area, may be made to an active lease to accommodate

operational requirements, i.e. to install a pumping station or other infrastructure for the collection or transformation of sap. Additional area to tap more trees does not constitute an operational requirement. Lessees must write to Crown Lands Branch explaining the reason for the addition and attach a map identifying the requested area.

### Maple Sugary Expansions:

Applications will be accepted, on a "first come, first served" basis, to facilitate expansions of up to 15 hectares for viable maple sugar stands that are either located adjacent to active maple sugary leases or located adjacent to freehold lands being operated as a commercial maple sugary by a Crown land maple sugary lessee. An application fee of \$300.00 + HST is associated with this process.

## What is a maple sugary expansion?

Viable maple sugar stands of up to 15 hectares that contain at least 150 taps per hectare and are located adjacent to an active maple sugary lease or freehold lands operated as a commercial maple sugary by a Crown lands maple sugary lessee. Exceptions may be made where a natural or a physical feature, such as a road or a stream, is located between the stand and the lease or freehold property.

## What is the current status of the NB maple industry?

The industry is in a transitional phase and is moving toward more value-added production. There are currently 161 active maple sugary leases on Crown lands which represent approximately 9,227 ha of Crown lands.

## What is a tubing corridor?

A tubing corridor is defined as a sap transportation pipeline located outside the lease boundaries for the purpose of transferring sap from one lease to another, a pumping station, a holding tank, or a production or transformation facility. A licence of occupation application must be submitted for all tubing corridors located outside the lease boundaries.



## Can I construct an access road to or around my lease?

Following receipt of an application, a licence of occupation may be issued to a maple sugary lessee to construct, maintain and repair a road on Crown lands to access a maple sugary lease.

Note: The lessee shall repair, at his or her own cost, any damage to existing forest roads as a result of activities associated with the operation of their maple sugary lease.

## Can I install a transmission line and utility line outside my lease?

Energy generation by such means as solar panels, wind mill or a fuel powered generator may be permitted. The lessee shall obtain authorization for any transmission line on Crown lands located outside the lease boundaries.

Lessees may connect to the N.B. power grid provided that there is no cost or liability for DNR and that all required approvals are obtained. Authorization (e.g., easement or licence of occupation) will be required for any transmission or utility lines connecting to the N.B. power grid that are on Crown lands, located outside the lease boundaries.

## What does “value-added maple production” mean?

“Value-added maple production” is defined as:

- Maple syrup sold in containers smaller than five (5) litres;
- Products made from further processing the syrup into items such as: maple cream, maple butter, maple sugar or maple candies;
- Any other food using maple product as an ingredient; and
- Processing the sap on site or by shipping it to a New Brunswick processing plant.

## Are there other costs or fees?

Once a lease has been prepared:

- **Preparation fee:** \$200.00 plus HST, non-refundable is due when the lease is signed.
- **Security Deposit:** total no. of hectares (ha) of the lease X \$100.00/ha.
- **Economic Rental:** Annual rent due April 1st of each year.
- Any costs associated with having the lands surveyed.
- Annual property taxes.

## What are the responsibilities of a maple sugary lessee?

A lessee is responsible for the management, maintenance and all capital improvements required. All requirements detailed in the proposal and all terms and conditions of the lease agreement must be met.

## When can a lease be cancelled?

A lease may be cancelled:

- at the request of the lessee;
- if any terms of the lease or of the *Lands Administration Regulation* under the *Crown Lands and Forests Act* have been breached; ([www.gnb.ca/acts](http://www.gnb.ca/acts)) or
- if annual rental and/or property taxes become 30-days over due.

