

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 or Natural Resources and Energy Development (DNRED) 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 20-year term.

What is the RFP process?

DNRED 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, DNRED 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.

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 DNRED 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 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) or
- if annual rental becomes 30-days over due.