



WV Project CommuniTree Planting at First United Methodist Church

Amazing volunteer turnout!

70 people attended the tree planting event in Berkeley Springs on November 7, 2015. The volunteers represented a broad coalition of community and civic organizations. Volunteers included 39 Girls Scouts, 20 family members of Girl Scouts, 4 teens from First United Methodist Church, 4 Town of Bath Tree Board Members, and 3 Warm Springs Watershed Association members.

Matt Pennington (Region 9) demonstrated how to plant a tree, including the depth at which the hole should be in relationship to where the tree collar is located.

Candice Pennington, one of the troop leaders, did a fantastic job in terms of

dividing older and younger girls into teams headed by a responsible adult. Candice also had various activities planned, everything from sack races to handouts for identifying fall leaves, for any groups that finished early.

Fortunately, there was something for everyone to do, no matter how young, and they stayed active.

The Girl Scouts were especially excited about how many fathers were present at the event. A goal of the national organization of Girl Scouts is to involve more fathers in Girl Scout events. The scout leaders saw this project as a major success in meeting that goal. Part of



the reason why so many girl scouts and family members participated is because the Girl Scouts were full partners in the project, from beginning to end.

The Town of Bath Tree Board and Warm Springs Watershed Association volunteers arrived an hour early to help set up and stayed for about an hour after the rest of the volunteers were finished to clean up.

A word from the Project Leader, Kate Lehman:

“Speaking personally, I’ve participated in many, many tree plantings, including other events where children are involved. I think what made this event especially successful was the organization provided by the Girl Scouts. From beginning to end, they were full partners, and not just there to watch.”



For more information, contact the Urban Watershed Forester at CTree@CacaponInstitute.Org or by calling 540-335-0687.