



Carla Hardy WV Project CommuniTree Planting at Hammonds Mill Subdivision

This was Hammonds Mill HOA's fourth CommuniTree project (see past projects [here](#)) and their most ambitious tree planting to date.

There were many lofty goals for this project, all of which were accomplished: plant 100 trees, establish a "future forest" and walking trail, and engage hundreds of students from the neighboring school, Potomack Intermediate.

As has been the case at previous Hammonds Mill HOA CTree plantings, this was a community-driven project with many different volunteers from the HOA and community pitching in to help.

A week before the tree planting, Katherine Cooper with Cacapon Institute led exciting educational

activities in-classroom at Potomack Intermediate so the students could learn more about the benefits of trees and tree biology.

The holes were augured by JPM Landscaping on the morning of the planting, Friday, October 21st. All of the trees and staking materials were distributed throughout the planting site by volunteers and Cacapon Institute staff.

Over the course of the day, 12 classes and over 200 students participated by learning how to plant a tree and then working in small groups to plant their own trees. The students were so excited about planting trees that they had to be asked to slow down



to leave some trees for the volunteers the next day!

On Saturday, October 22nd, the remaining trees were planted by HOA volunteers.

Water tanks will be installed on site for watering the trees.

This is the first step of a multi-phase project to create a "future forest". As they say, Rome wasn't built in a day, and neither was the "future forest" at Hammonds Mill HOA.

A word from the Project Leader, Jimmy Gossard:

"The best part of this project was being able to include 240 students in the event. These trees are our legacy to the Hammond's Mill Development and the students will be able to watch them grow and participate in their care and continue to learn about them."



For more information, contact the Urban Watershed Forester at ctree@cacaponinstitute.org or by calling 540-335-0687.