

Potomac Highlands Guild

16 Trees – 19 Volunteers – 79 Hours Volunteered

Carla Hardy WV Project CommuniTree Planting at PHG's Moorefield Clinic

The Potomac Highlands Guild provides behavioral health services to citizens in the Potomac Valley.

With this in mind, the Project Leader Shannon Fike decided to apply for the Carla Hardy WV Project CommuniTree in fall 2016, as studies have shown that [“trees improve human health and well-being in many ways”](#).

The Potomac Highlands Guild Training Center and Clinic outside of Moorefield is a large site with plenty of open space, and up until this fall, very few trees.

This all changed when volunteers, clients, and staff planted a mix of 16 shade trees to improve aesthetics, provide shade, and create wildlife habitat.

The trees planted represented a diverse mix

of species including sugar maples, red oaks, white oaks, and American beech trees.

On the morning of planting day, October 16, 2016, Shannon and Cacapon Institute staff prepared the site for the volunteers. The holes were dug that morning by the Guild's maintenance crew.

PHG staff and about a dozen clients participated in the tree planting in the morning and planted the majority of the trees. The rest of the trees were planted with high school volunteers in the afternoon.

The Grant County Press in Petersburg ran an article



about the tree planting.

The clients have taken great care in watering and maintaining their trees, and have even gone so far as to name their favorites.

So much pride has been taken in this project and we are absolutely pleased to have participated and help the Guild serve their community in the Potomac Valley!

A word from the Project Leader, Shannon Fike:

“The various adults who attend the day site were overjoyed to be able to enhance their facility. Since the planting occurred, the clientele have become quite adept at caring for and knowing about the trees. Each person present at the tree planting training has a better knowledge of the care and planting of trees.”



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