

# Chapel View HOA

24 Trees – 17 Volunteers – 64 Hours Volunteered

## WV Project CommuniTree Planting in Chapel View Subdivision

Seventeen volunteers from Chapel View HOA, ranging in age from seven to sixty, participated in this project in a residential neighborhood outside of Martinsburg on April 23, 2016.

Frank Rodgers from Cacapon Institute led a planting demonstration wherein he talked about digging tree holes, how to break up the pot-like effect of the clay soil after digging with an augur, how to ensure that the hole is neither too deep nor too shallow for the tree, the 3-3-3 rule for mulching, and the benefits of donut style mulching as opposed to volcano mulching. He also shared information on how tree leaves capture stormwater.

For Project Leader Jennifer Syron, one of the highlights

from this project was the great diversity of trees that were planted. She had never seen the thorns on the black locust before, which caught quite a few people's attention, as well as the natural beauty of the red buckeye trees.

Frank Rodgers educated the group about the benefits of biodiversity and shared WV Project CommuniTree's goals for planting a variety of tree species. As a bonus, Frank donated a dozen black willow clippings to residents so that they can grow out trees in their own backyards that will address stormwater runoff issues in the community.



According to Jennifer Syron, this was the first time that it seemed as though Chapel View HOA's common area might be on its way to becoming a park. By planting trees, the residents have created a place for the community to recreate and enjoy.

This was the third tree planting event that Cacapon Institute has held at Chapel View HOA.

### A word from the Project Leader, Jennifer Syron:

*"For me, the most memorable part was watching the teenagers... They briefly attempted to plant trees with one hand, clinging to their phones in the other. An hour later... were working together, cell phones down, laughing and having a good time. I suppose the benefit, beyond learning about trees and stormwater management, for most of our volunteers is the reminder that we can make meaningful changes by pulling together as a community, by devoting our time and our talents to creating solutions."*



For more information, contact the Urban Watershed Forester at [CTree@CacaponInstitute.Org](mailto:CTree@CacaponInstitute.Org) or by calling 540-335-0687.