



WV Project CommuniTree Planting at Pleasant View Elementary School

Good projects happen when the community gathers around a shared goal!

This is exactly what happened at Pleasant View Elementary School on Earth Day, April 22, 2016, when 46 volunteers came together to plant trees through WV Project CommuniTree at the school outside of Hedgesville.

Most of the volunteers were students and staff, as well as some members of the Sleepy Creek Watershed Association.

Two days before the tree planting, on April 20, Katherine Cooper from Cacapon Institute and Charles Marsh with Sleepy Creek Watershed Association presented tree planting lessons to all six of the K-5 classrooms (120

students).

On planting day, Katherine Cooper performed a tree planting demonstration while students, parents, and community volunteers assisted. The demonstration helped educate the volunteers on the right way to plant trees and the benefits they'll have for the school, community, and watershed.

After the tree planting demonstration, students, parents, and community volunteers planted and watered the trees around the playground.

The school is planning to water each tree with 5 gallons of water per tree per week. Staff members and parents have volunteered to help, as well as summer school students on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Additionally,



the school has plans to mulch the trees each spring during their annual Earth Day Title 1 event in April.

This was a great project and a wonderful community event!

A word from the Project Leader, Keri Cunningham Chilcote:

“Our favorite part of WV Project CommuniTree was the collaboration of students, parents, school staff, and community members to plant the trees. It was a true collaboration of all stakeholders within the Pleasant View Community! We look forward to watching the trees grow and flourish through the years.”



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