



WV Project CommuniTree Planting at Shepherd University

This WV Project CommuniTree planting at Shepherd University on Saturday, April 23, 2016 was a wonderful success!

A large group of excited volunteers showed up to assist with the 6th annual Shepherd Arbor Day. In total, 32 student, faculty, and community volunteers volunteered to plant trees. Dr. Vila from the Environmental Studies department and Dr. Plautz from the Biology Department provided an educational demonstration on how to properly plant the trees.

Fortunately for Shepherd University, the maintenance department is an extremely helpful partner in all of their tree planting projects. Not only did they assist by auguring all of the holes, but they

also have plans for assisting members of Shepherd Environmental Organization in watering the trees throughout the summer.

This tree planting brought together a group from varying backgrounds. It was exciting to watch different folks meet and connect for the first time over something as fun as planting trees.

One of the volunteers, Demian Nunez, wrote a great [article](#) about the tree planting for the Shepherd University Picket.

Shepherd University has successfully applied for WV Project CommuniTree five times, and their projects and volunteer participation keep getting better and better!



Cumulatively, these student-led projects have culminated in the planting of 130 trees: 16 this spring 2016, 50 in [spring 2015](#), 16 in [fall 2014](#), 24 in [spring 2014](#), and 24 in [spring 2013](#). Keep up the great work!

A word from the Project Leader, Kenzie Allen:

“My favorite part of WV Project CommuniTree (outside of the actual planting of the trees) was the socialization. Tree plantings are a great way to get folks to connect and form relationships that can benefit environmental outreach. People of different backgrounds are able to bond and discuss environmentally-focused ideas and events.”



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