



Carla Hardy WV Project CommuniTree Planting at Eagle Intermediate School

It's been several years since Cacapon Institute has planted a CommuniTree kit at Eagle Intermediate School, the last project taking place in [spring 2015](#).

This spring, they planted another 20 trees along the stormwater pond at the front of the school over the course of two days, May 22 and 23.

Four of the trees that were planted along the stormwater pond were trees from the school's Growing Native tree grow-out station. Another three trees from the grow-out station were used to replant trees that failed to establish from the spring 2015 planting.

The Project Leader, Principal Lewis Mullenax, was assisted throughout the project by Bridget

Tinsley with Potomac Valley Audubon Society.

PVAS worked this spring with all of Eagle Intermediate School's fourth grade students on their Watershed program where students learn about watersheds, stormwater runoff pollution, and best management practices.

Through CommuniTree, the students were able to meaningfully demonstrate and apply the skills and lessons they learned through the Watershed program.

The day before the tree planting, several volunteers worked to dig all of the holes.

Jeff Iliff from Cacapon Institute and Bridget Tinsley provided the students with educational



lessons on planting day for how to properly plant and maintain the trees.

In total, 10 classes and 237 students participated in planting the trees.

One student even exclaimed that "playing in dirt is more fun than a fidget spinner!"

This was high praise and we are proud to have offered such engaging activities and lessons for these amazing students!

A word from the Project Leader, Lewis Mullenax:

"Watching the students take the lead was the best part of this project. Many of them were able to identify the tree species, name the parts (roots, trunk, branches, etc) and talk about what a tree needs to grow healthy and strong."



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