



CW Shipley Elementary School

16 Trees – 82 Volunteers – 104 Hours Volunteered

Carla Hardy WV Project CommuniTree Planting at CW Shipley Elementary School

The “Ranger Raccoons” were out in full force planting trees!

Fortunately, there weren’t any bandits in the bunch and all of the students that helped with planting the trees were great volunteers.

On Thursday, April 19, about two weeks before the planting, Connor Roessler from Cacapon Institute provided in-classroom education for all of the 4th grade students. They learned about why trees are important, the parts of a tree, and how trees help the watershed. They especially enjoyed the Parts of a Tree game!

68 of these students came out to plant trees on Wednesday, May 2. In addition, there were 11 adult volunteers, including

several parents, that provided assistance and support for the students.

Each group of students recapped for Connor what they learned and then broke off into small groups to learn how to properly plant trees. There were three Cacapon Institute staff on site to help the students, as well as Carl Drumgoole with the [Blue Ridge Watershed Coalition](#).

All of the species planted are large growing shade trees, including red maples, sugar maples, oaks, tulip poplar, sycamore, and more.

The trees were planted in the two playgrounds, as well as along the walking trail, to provide shade for the students



and help increase tree canopy in Jefferson County.

The school has plans for continuing to plant trees in future planting seasons to help buffer against the cold wind blowing through the playground in winter and to further increase tree canopy and shade on campus.

We look forward to assisting the “Ranger Raccoons” with more in-classroom education and hands-on conservation!

A word from the Project Leader, Ian Hillman:

“The most memorable part was seeing all of the students fully engaged in the process. Students of all ability levels were able to fully participate. The students were able to use the information they learned in the 4th grade plant unit in science class.”



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