



Rock Spring Church

16 Trees – 101 Volunteers – 226 Hours Volunteered

Carla Hardy WV Project CommuniTree Planting at Rock Spring Church

The inaugural Earth Day Celebration at Rock Spring Church was a huge hit!

In an effort to create a larger and more fun community event around the tree planting, the Rock Spring Connections Team, comprised of 7 super awesome, people-oriented congregation members, was brought in to help plan the food and activities for the Earth Day Celebration.

On planting day, the adults had regular church services at 9am and 10:30am. Meanwhile, the KidsRock children had a special Sunday School lesson about trees taught by Connor Roessler of the Cacapon Institute. When the second service let out a little after noon, the congregation was invited to stay for lunch to fuel up prior to tree planting. All of the food

for the lunch was brought by members of the congregation. When the food was gone and everyone's belly was full, the volunteers met Cacapon Institute's Tanner Haid and Connor out by the first tree for a planting demonstration.

In total, 38 adults and 28 children volunteered to participate in the tree planting.

After the demonstration, the planting volunteers dispersed and planted the remaining 15 trees along the front drive of Rock Spring Church.

As the planting came to a close, volunteers set up activity tables for the kids (and some parents!) to paint rocks and make leaf



rubbings to have a souvenir to take home and remember the day. Connor led the children in some tree yoga and then sent them on a scavenger hunt to find and identify natural items. There were also yard games set up to encourage people to hang out, enjoy the day, and build community.

Overall, the entire day was a success and everyone involved will have memories to cherish for years to come!

A word from the Project Leader, KC Walters:

“My favorite part of WV Project CommuniTree was receiving the trees. Our church property had so few trees...It brings me pure joy to turn into the church and see all the new beautiful trees.”



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