



## Carla Hardy WV Project CommuniTree Planting at the Wardensville Garden Market

**Celebrating “Earth Day on the Farm” in the best way possible—by planting trees to create a riparian “food forest”!**

This was the Wardensville Garden Market’s first ever CommuniTree planting and it couldn’t have gone any better.

The trees were delivered to the site in early April, where the farm crew kept them watered and in good health up until the tree planting on Sunday, April 22.

Before the tree planting, on Wednesday, April 11, the farm hosted a tree planting demonstration for all of their staff led by Holly May with WV Division of Forestry and Frank Rodgers from Cacapon Institute.

Over 80 volunteers, as well

as more than 30 farm staff, participated in planting day.

Most of the volunteers were families from Hardy and Hampshire County, including a local RuriTEENS club, STREAM campers, and representatives from Cacapon & Lost Rivers Land Trust, Alliance for Chesapeake Bay, and The Nature Conservancy.

Each of these representatives provided educational materials for all of the volunteers about the importance of forests to the ecosystem and watershed.

The planting began with a tree planting demonstration from Holly, covering all of the steps for properly planting trees.



At that point, the volunteers split up, and with assistance from the trained farm staff they planted all of the trees.

In addition to the 100 trees provide by Cacapon Institute through our CommuniTree program, the volunteers also planted 50 additional trees and berry bushes.

All of their planning and preparation made for a wonderful planting day—great work!

### A word from the Project Leader, Vicki Johnson:

*“The project was educational both for our youth staff and for the public volunteers, a win-win for everyone.”*





For more information, contact the Urban Watershed Forester at [ctree@cacaponinstitute.org](mailto:ctree@cacaponinstitute.org) or by calling 540-335-0687.