

Windmill Crossings HOA

50 Trees – 25 Volunteers – 81 Hours Volunteered

Carla Hardy WV Project CommuniTree Planting at Windmill Crossings subdivision

Planting trees at Windmill Crossings has never been this fun (or muddy)!

This tree planting at Windmill Crossings subdivision in Charles Town was a huge success.

A total of 22 volunteers, including 7 children, volunteered on planting day.

The planting started at 7:00am on Saturday, April 28 when Tanner Haid from Cacapon Institute, project leader Paul Harris, and HOA board member Dave Kimmel began cutting cages for the evergreen trees.

Several additional volunteers showed up early to help place trees at the holes. They made sure each hole had all of the right planting materials, while also

distributing top soil across the planting area.

All of their work before the planting made the entire project run smoother for the rest of the volunteers.

As 9:00am came around, more volunteers arrived. They enjoyed coffee and donuts before the planting formally began. Some people came from outside the subdivision to help with the planting, which was greatly appreciated!

All of the volunteers learned a lot about how to plant the trees, from making sure the roots do not grow into a ball to making sure there isn't too much mulch around the base of the tree at the soil level. These are great practical lessons that homeowners can then use for planting trees on their property.

The volunteers learned about initiatives in Jefferson County for increasing tree canopy and



how they can have an impact on local streams to help protect the Chesapeake Bay.

This is the third CommuniTree planting at Windmill Crossings HOA, the first projects taking place in [spring 2017](#) and [fall 2016](#). Over 100 new trees are now growing in this subdivision!

A word from the Project Leader, Paul Harris:

“We enjoyed the talks from local conservationists regarding the importance of water quality and stream beautification for Shenandoah and Potomac watersheds.”



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