



WV Project CommuniTree Planting in Hammonds Mill subdivision

Third times a charm!

Seventeen volunteers assisted with this WV Project CommuniTree project on Saturday, April 16, 2016, in Hammonds Mill subdivision in Spring Mills.

Together these volunteers planted 50 trees in one of the community's shared common areas. The plan for this project was to plant a mix of trees that would help accomplish multiple goals. White pines were planted in the area along the boundary of the property to create a visual, wind, and sound barrier because there are businesses behind the development. Shade trees such as sycamore, river birch, swamp white oak, and willows were planted in a low-lying area to help control the amount of stormwater that

runs off of nearby parking lots and residential homes. Finally, eastern redbud and serviceberry trees were planted close to the houses and the parking lot for early spring color and to help create a nice park-like setting.

In addition to planting trees in their common areas, the HOA board has an additional goal to enhance the rest of the development by encouraging the neighbors to plant more trees on their property.

This was the third WV project CommuniTree program at



Hammonds Mill. Cumulatively, the residents have planted 124 trees in this neighborhood, including 24 trees planted in [spring 2015](#) and 50 trees planted in [fall 2015](#).

We look forward to watching these trees, as well as trees planted by homeowners, grow large!

A word from the Project Leader, Jimmy Gossard:

"The CommuniTree project allowed us to take care of some problem areas in the neighborhood without spending thousands of dollars. It's also been a great way for the residents to get involved, meet each other and get smarter about how to better the environment. It instills a sense of pride in the community as well, people are more likely to take care of an area when they were responsible for creating it."



For more information, contact the Urban Watershed Forester at CTree@CacaponInstitute.Org or by calling 540-335-0687.