



Carla Hardy WV Project CommuniTree Planting at North Fork Elementary School

This tree planting was a wonderful experience for everyone involved!

Support was strong from the very beginning, with community members offering to help dig holes to getting a front page article in the Pendleton Times highlighting the school's support and excitement.

The tree planting on Friday, November 2 was a full day event, beginning in the morning with every 3rd-6th grade student rotating through a number of stations.

The "Tree Planting" station was led by Cacapon Institute's Connor Roessler and WV Division of Forestry's Rosey Santerre. They provided step-by-step instructions for how to successfully plant the trees. Students also learned about different types of native trees

and about environmental careers. Each group of students planted two trees with Connor & Rosey.

Another station was about "Wellness". This group learned about nutrition and food sustainability, with emphasis on the benefits of local and seasonal food consumption. They also talked about "schoolyard wellness" and collected several bags of litter found around the school.

The remaining stations were about "West Virginia Forest History" and "Educational Team Building", both of which were led by Experience Learning staff.

The afternoon group consisted of all K-2nd grade students. The 3



stations they participated in included "Tree Planting", "Physical Games" and a "Wellness Station".

Overall, this tree planting was an extremely meaningful program for all students, teachers, instructors, and volunteers.

Experience Learning has never done an entire school program like this, so we are very proud to have shown them the way and helped them facilitate this great event!

A word from the Project Leader, Isabelle Heydt:

"Students now can take ownership over a project in their schoolyard, an area they already love so much, that will benefit generations of future students."



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