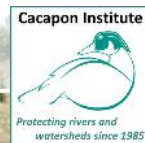


Warm Springs Middle School



6th Graders Plant Trees to Reduce Erosion and Build Community

Project leader and 6th grade teacher Joshua Rider from Warm Spring Middle School, Berkeley Springs, WV, participated in the PHLOW Plant-a-Tree program this fall. One-hundred-fifty students in six classes participated in a forty-five minute education session to



learn the role trees play within our environment. Students identified the internal and external structure of a trees, talked about how trees benefit the environment, and played a game to review these essential topics. Many of the students previously participated in the Watershed Program by Potomac Valley Audubon Society in

4th grade. This lesson was a refresher and built upon prior knowledge.

On October 8th, four teachers, six community members, and the students worked together under the instruction of Cacapon Institute to plant six shade trees at their school. The trees were placed at the top of a hill that is suffering from erosion. The trees will provide shade to parents overlooking the soccer field at the bottom of the hill, the roots will provide stability for the hillside, and students will monitor the growth in their science classes.

These trees were not only a positive impact for the environment but helped build community pride. Parent volunteers, school staff, and public figures came together to make the tree planting a success.

Overall 162 individuals spent 21 hours dedicated to the planning



and execution of this project.

These trees will continue to provide benefits for the community, school, and environment for many years to come.

