

# Fence erected at city park in preparation for 'Planting for Our Future' event

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SHAMOKIN — The Northumberland County Conservation District (NCCD), Shamokin Community Gardens, Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance (SCRA) and the City of Shamokin are planning to hold an environmental educational event, titled “Planting for Our Future,” on Saturday, May 14, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Claude Kehler Community Park II, off Walnut Street.

To prepare for this event, Boy Scout Troop 254, Shamokin, assisted the organizations on Tuesday evening with installing a split-rail wood fence where a pollinator garden will be built. Scouts erected the fence by digging holes, pouring cement and leveling the rails.

Ben Paul, NCCD watershed specialist, said the Scouts learned a valuable lesson in carpentry and also provided a service to the community.

NCCD, he said, applied for and received an environmental education grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection’s 2021 Environmental Education Grants Program. The grant was written to pay for the design, purchase and installation of educational signs that describe riparian forest buffers, pollinator gardens and acid mine drainage.

On May 14, these signs, along with a small pollinator garden, will be installed in the park along with more than 20 saplings that, once fully grown, will complement larger trees planted last year. The organizations will also present educational information regarding riparian forest buffers, pollinator gardens and acid mine drainage.

Everyone is welcome to attend, especially those who are interested in learning more about water quality in the Shamokin Creek Watershed, and benefits of trees and pollinators. Lunch will be served following the event.

For more information, contact Paul at [bpaul@nccdpa.org](mailto:bpaul@nccdpa.org) or 570-495-4665 ext. 306, and the Northumberland County Conservation District at [www.nccdpa.org](http://www.nccdpa.org).