

Rock Hill, SC

PROJECT PARTNER: Clemson University Extension

The Laurelwood Reforestation Project provided 25 new trees to replace some of Rock Hill's oldest and most majestic trees lost recently at Laurelwood Cemetery. These new trees helped to fill some of the gaps left by large trees lost and helped to restore Laurelwood's urban forest, adding to the city's tree canopy in the downtown area. As part of the project, volunteers were trained in proper tree planting and care and they assisted in planting the trees. Prior to the tree planting, a thorough assessment and inventory of trees in Laurelwood was conducted with the assistance of qualified horticulture students at Spartanburg Community College. The data created a map showing the location and condition of the trees in Laurelwood, which city staff used to provide oversight and maintenance of the trees as well as to identify planting locations for the new trees that were added.



BY THE NUMBERS:

25

trees planted

77



volunteers

“Upon entering this academic semester, I had absolutely no idea that I would surrender my break for an educational opportunity, as normally, I am one to seize every chance to take a rest. However, when Matt Clinton, the city arborist, spoke to our class at Spartanburg Community College about the Laurelwood Cemetery project, I began to consider the benefits of these extracurricular events. Though I doubt my career path will lead me to becoming a city arborist, I now have a desire to learn more about every facet of the environment and life around me. I was drawn to the opportunity to better learn how a healthy tree should look and how to evaluate a tree's health and risk of failure.”

—Stephen Parris

Horticulture Student,
Spartanburg Community College