



For Immediate Release

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CT Landscape Firm Mobilizes Volunteers to Renovate and Enhance Green Spaces For Earth Day 2015 as part of NALP's Day of Service

-Four nonprofits and one homeowner receive landscape and green-space renewal benefits from Earth Day need-based volunteer initiative-



New Milford, CT April 30, 2015 -

In celebration of Earth Day 2015, leading northwestern [CT landscape firm YardApes, Inc.](#), donated landscaping materials and mobilized 31 volunteers for an incredible five-site community outreach landscaping and green-space renewal effort on April 22nd.

YardApes of New Milford CT identified local property owners

who demonstrated a particular landscaping need, but who most importantly, would benefit from a renewed connection to nature. "We set out to pick one area nonprofit and one area homeowner. And, as has been the case in previous years, we expanded our efforts to include more projects. I hate to say 'no' to anyone," said YardApes founder Shayne Newman in a statement, regarding his firm's Day of Service community outreach, now in its seventh year.

" We have to assess the need, and *need* is defined differently by everyone," said Mr. Newman. "We look at where we can make the biggest difference. Consensus is never easy. So we end up adding more projects."

Recipients of [YardApes 2015 "Day of Service" Landscape and Green-Space Renewal Projects](#) Need-based Initiative include:

- **The Creative Playground in New Milford, CT**, where installation of topsoil, in effort to stabilize playground's walkway, created a safe play area for the community's children;
- **New Milford Bulls Field in New Milford, CT**, benefited from installation of new landscaping, weeding and mulching of existing plant beds, over-seeding and fertilizing of football field for the community youth football and cheer organization;
- **The Pratt Nature Center in New Milford, CT**, a 201-acre wildlife preserve and environmental education center had entrance gardens in need of pruning, cleanup and mulching. An area overgrown with invasive plant material also received a cleanup;
- **Steep Rock Land Trust in New Preston, CT**, where volunteers cleared invasive plant material and refuse, including approximately 100 tires found in an overgrown wooded area of the public land trust;
- **Homeowners' site in New Milford, CT.**, where volunteers cleaned up fallen leaves, pruned shrubs, dormant pruned trees, pruned Privet hedge.

All five projects were part of a nationwide "Day of Service" initiated by the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP) with the goal of giving its 3,800 member companies an opportunity to plan, organize, and carry out projects to benefit their local communities.

"I am deeply gratified to have employees who volunteer their time, friends and colleagues who volunteer—and strengthen—our effort," said Mr. Newman. "We sincerely enjoy a day working together with the common goal of making a difference in our community."

The 31 volunteers consisted of 22 YardApes employees who donated their day, one Aspetuck Tree & Landscape volunteer, as well as eight local business people from the BNI Business Bobcat group where Newman is a member.

YardApes, Inc. is northwestern Connecticut's award-winning landscape firm serving residential and commercial clients since 1990. YardApes, Inc. is recognized both locally and nationally for its exceptional contributions to the industry and the community.
www.yardapes.com

NALP is the national trade association representing more than 100,000 landscape industry professionals, who create and maintain healthy, green living spaces for communities across America. NALP members are committed to the highest standards in industry education, best practices, and business professionalism.

Many of NALP's professionals have attained the status of becoming Landscape Industry Certified, achieving the greatest level of industry expertise and knowledge.

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