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## Blackbird Creek Reserve Tree Planting

By Kristen Walsh, Observer Staff Reporter

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Blackbird Creek Reserve, near Townsend, is ecologically richer thanks to the concerted efforts of the Boy Scouts from the Del-Mar-Va Council, EARTHXT, and DNREC. On Saturday, April 4, these groups came together and planted 1,000 native trees in the reserve.

The tree planting was part of DNREC's Division of Soil and Water Conservation long-range conservation plan to help preserve one of Delaware's most ecologically valuable areas.

About 40 Boy Scouts from throughout the Delmarva Peninsula came out to help. One volunteer, Braedon Carter, 10, Hartley, a member of Cub Scout Pack 76, said that he was spending time on this project because he's done a lot of planting before and hopes to do a lot more. Also, he said he "wanted to help the earth."

Funding for the trees was provided by EARTHXT, a non-profit organization that promotes environmental education and provides science-based, outdoor-oriented and hands-on environmental programs for children and youth organizations, schools and families.

"Hands-on tree plantings are a great way to get kids to take action for the planet and connect with the outdoors. In years to come they can watch the trees grow as they do - reinforcing the importance of the experience and helping to build a sense of stewardship for our shared environment," said Amanda Benner, EARTHXT program director.

The trees planted are all native to the area. Some types that were used include Persimmon, Northern Red Oak, Loblolly Pine, and Eastern Red Cedar.

For more information:

[Blackbird Creek Reserve](#)

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[Boy Scouts of America Del-Mar-Va Council](#)

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Blackbird Creek (Courtesy of DNERR)



## ABOUT ME

Kristen Walsh attended Rutgers University (Cook College) where she received a B.S. in Natural Resource Management. In 2002, she studied Tropical Reforestation in Australia through the School for Field Studies.

Although she enjoys writing about the natural world the most, she does have experience working in the field. A few of her former employers include NJ's Endangered and Non-Game Species Program and the Delaware Museum of Natural History.

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