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**Adding Green To Milford**

By OZI MENAKAYA -- WMDT 4/18/2009



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Delaware's open space has been depleting at a rapid pace over the years, thanks to development and construction. Today, many kids in Milford tried to restore a little bit of the green.

"First you take the plant out of the box and make sure that the hole is deep enough," said Abby Pearson.

Abby Pearson is one of many children that came down to the marsh lands in Milford, Delaware to help plants over 1,000 trees. She is helping out in a Delaware State conservation program that has been taking place since 1999.

"In Delaware we're losing open space at a very rapid pace, as people know," said John Graham coordinator of the tree planting event.

Abby and her friends are trying to change that.

"The goal of the deal is to put new forest back where farm land used to be," said Graham.

Earth Next is a non -profit organization provided 1,075 trees for the children to plant Saturday. Amanda Benner, the spokesperson for Earth Next hopes that what goes on here today plants a seed in these children's future.

"What we try to do is really work with them to learn about the environment, take action and hope that it turns them into stewards in the future," said Benner.

Earth Next activities didn't end today. They have created a program called Trees for the 21st Century. It is a educational tree planting program for children ages 6 through 18, involving science based learning and tree planting.

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