

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 27, 2018**

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**STUDENTS ASSIST WITH TREE PLANTING IN COVINGTON TO CELEBRATE EARTH DAY**

Covington, WA – On Friday, April 27, over 30 students from both Jenkins Creek Elementary and the Muckleshoot Tribe participated in the City of Covington’s annual tree planting event in observance of Earth Day. The event, held at Jenkins Creek Park, also featured representatives from Mid Sound Fisheries and Green River College who were on hand to provide their educational and planting expertise.

Dozens of new trees have been planted in Jenkins Creek Park over the past several years as part of this program. This year, students helped plant three new trees – a big leaf maple, an Oregon ash and an Oregon white oak tree.

Jenkins Creek Elementary students have a close tie to Jenkins Creek Park as it is literally in their own backyard. The park land also holds significance to the Muckleshoot Tribe. Historically, Jenkins Creek Park is part of what was known as Jenkins Prairie, an Oak Prairie habitat that was significant to local tribes, specifically the Muckleshoot Tribe.

After the tree planting, participants learned about other plants native to the Jenkins Creek area, particularly the history of the camas plant that was very important to tribes and is still growing there today. Students were also presented with a tree seedling to bring home with them to plant.

[PHOTOS INCLUDED – higher resolution available]



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