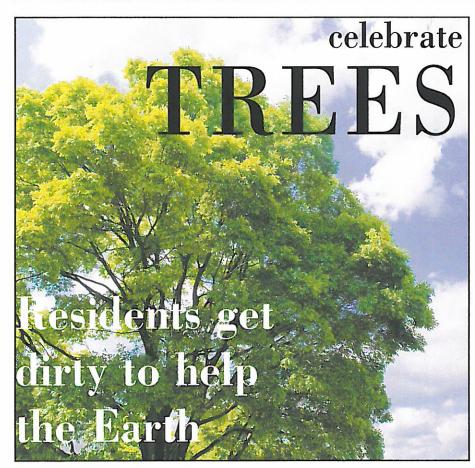
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SPECIAL REDESIGN

50¢



By Karen Gardner News-Post Staff

plant trees. Frederick schools, parks, community organizations and private citizens will plant hundreds of them this month.

a healthy thing to do, for humans and versity of Washington. the Earth. BENEFITS

hade trees tection. to \$200 Gallons of polluted runoff reduced per year: 1,565

cott City, has run ads cooling shade and carbon reduction as the tree matures: \$108 gesting people work," she said. plant a tree

and carbon consumption.

tional Year of Forests, as participating nurseries. declared by the United Nations. area.

much more, according to Karen Capiella, director of research. "The tree can reduce the amount of rainfall that runs off," she said.

Rainwater runoff affects water quality by increasing erosion and pouring pollutants into our water supply. "It can be difficult to quantify this, because there are so many variables," Capiella said. The type of soil, the kind of tree, and the type of land all affect the amount of runoff.

Then there's shade, which cuts down on the need for air conditioning, and the ability of Earth Day inspires people to trees to take in carbon dioxide. which contributes to the buildup of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

"There's a wide range of research on the tangible bene-There's a reason environmen- fits of trees," Capiella said. Just talists are called tree-huggers. seeing a tree from a hospital bed But planting a tree is not always is shown to speed healing,

Trees contribute to an The Cen- increase in property value and ter for Water- reduce stress, according to a shed Pro- report by the center.

"Studies on commercial disn tricts or business districts with trees show people spend more time and money than in busi-Elli- ness districts without trees," Capiella said.

"There's even a study that in the Freder- shows having plants in your ick area sug- office makes people happier at

The Marylanders Plant Trees for clean drinking water, shade program is a good way to get started, she said. The program's This year is also the Interna- website offers \$25 coupons at

The program started in 2009, According to the U.N., forests and so far, 54,000 trees have cover 31 percent of total land been planted. Of those trees, nearly 10,000 have been planted One large shade tree costs an in Frederick County. That's conaverage of \$200, but can save siderably more than in any of the neighboring counties, including Montgomery and Howard coun-





Staff photo by Adam Fried

a political statement; it's according to the Center for Joseph Hartung, 9, helps Joe Richardson, owner of Bar-T Mountainside in Urban Horticulture at the Uni- Urbana, plant a sycamore tree Saturday during the facility's Earth Day celebration.

is hoping to have 50,000 more other wildlife. trees planted across the state by the end of 2012.

est Brigade, which hopes to cultural features, cities and peohave 1 million new trees planted ple benefit from the presence of on state-owned land by the end natural features. Many cities of next year.

a list of recommended trees, and businesses. ranging from the flowering dogwood to the huge, spreading longer be associated with poliwhite oak that work well in tics. It may become a way of life.

ties, both of which have much Maryland's climate and provide larger populations. The program food and shelter for birds and

Green infrastructure is a new buzzword in urban planning. Added to that is the state For- Along with buildings, roads and are promoting green infrastruc-Marylanders Plant Trees has ture as a benefit to residents

One day, tree-hugging may no



Staff photo by Adam Fried

Joe Richardson, owner of Bar-T Mountainside in Urbana, teaches Paul Potter, 11, left, and Joseph Hartung, 9, proper tree-planting tips during the facility's Earth Day celebration Saturday.

LEFT: Richardson pulls back mulch while planting a sycamore tree.