



EARTH DAY CELEBRATED IN WEST CHESTER

Duke Energy's gift to the Earth this April 22nd is a collection of trees for Beckett Park in West Chester Township.

Duke employees will gather at 5 p.m. with West Chester Township officials and staff to plant seven trees at the community park in the heart of Union Centre. The trees will be planted near the Township's restored Muhlhauser Barn and will include redbud, pine and pear trees, according to Township Community Services Director Gordon Perry.

"The trees will complement the setting at Beckett Park and demonstrate West Chester's ongoing interest in working with the community to support a "greener" lifestyle," said West Chester Township Administrator Judi Boyko. "Duke Energy's gift will be appreciated for many years to come."

"This Earth Day celebration provides the perfect opportunity for Duke Energy and our employees to come together with West Chester Township officials and support local environmental efforts by the planting of these trees," said Tim Abbott, Duke Energy northern area business relations manager. "Duke Energy takes pride in supporting the communities we serve and making them a great place to live and work."

West Chester will also be partnering with the Butler County Engineers Office, McGill, Smith Punshon Architects and several other organizations during Earth Day week to develop a rain garden at Beckett Park. The garden, filled with mostly native and drought-tolerant plantings, is designed to capture water run-off from surrounding parking areas. Water is then filtered and cleaned naturally and then released into the storm water system.

West Chester Township staff will be working to prepare the garden space during the week of April 22nd and volunteers will go to work on April 26th to complete the project with plantings.