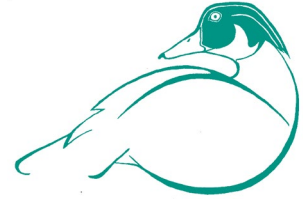


Cacapon Institute

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Celebrating
40 Years!



February 16, 2026

PRESS: 250 Trees for America's 250th, Morgan County

Be Patriotic for America's 250th and Plant Patriotic Trees!

Cacapon Institute invites everyone in Morgan County to join in planting 250 trees to celebrate America's 250th Anniversary in 2026. Planting any tree or shrub is patriotic because you are expressing hope in the future and you are improving the environment for your community. Trees provide many benefits to communities, such as reducing air pollution, slowing flooding, improving water quality, increasing property values, decreasing energy costs, and creating wildlife habitat. This effort is funded by the WV DEP Chesapeake Bay Program, U.S. EPA, and USDA Forest Service, and is supported by WV Division of Forestry and Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA. Federal funding is made possible because a healthy tree benefits everyone, not just the owner.

Morgan County residents who plant a tree for America's 250th will, decades from now, perhaps, think back on 2026 as, on every 4th of July, they sit enjoying the shade of their patriotic witness tree. Don't miss out.

"With the help of Sleepy Creek and Warm Springs watershed associations, as well as the Town of Bath Tree Board, I am confident Morgan County will plant 250 patriotic trees and shrubs by the end of this year," says Frank Rodgers, Executive Director, "Morganites are lucky to have such strong organizations looking out for the trees and streams we enjoy".



250 Trees orders opened on Monday, Presidents' Day, February 16th.

Registration is free. A donation is appreciated for the trees and shrubs that are inexpensive, below wholesale (and financial assistance is available). Participation is two steps. First, participants must register where, in order to receive a tree, a home or business must provide contact information and commit to the rules (i.e., call Miss Utility, take a survival-survey, etc.). Second, order trees and shrubs. An online tree and shrub order form will be emailed to everyone who registers.

To register, use the QR code or go to www.CacaponInstitute.org.

The list of trees is available for viewing on Cacapon Institute's website under the "PROTECT" tab (www.cacaponinstitute.org/protect/). We highlight red, white, and blue trees like the N. American Red Oak, White Oak, and Blue Viburnum. We also note American trees and shrubs like the American Beautyberry and American Hornbeam. We invite Morgan County residents to plant *Potomac* River Birches, because, any river birch planted in Morgan County will be in the Potomac River watershed. So, plant trees to celebrate the Potomac, *The Nations River*, and Morgan County's connection to history and the Nation's Capital.

For more information, or to register by phone, contact Cacapon Institute at 304-258-8013 or bmp@cacaponinstitute.org with the subject MoCo250. Thank you.

*We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, faith, or sexual orientation.
We strive to be inclusive, regardless of age or disability, and seek a diverse workforce and audience.*

*Since 1985, from the Cacapon River, to the Potomac, to the Chesapeake Bay,
we have been protecting rivers and watersheds using science and education.*