

Green Apple Day of Service at Hartford High School

September 26th was [Green Apple Day](#) around the Nation and the World, and Hartford was no exception. For the fifth straight year, the Academy of Engineering and Green Technology led the way in this celebration of Service.

The idea of giving individuals, companies and organizations the opportunity to transform all our schools into healthy, safe, cost-efficient and productive learning places came from The Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). The fourth Saturday in September was chosen as the day when these volunteers could come together to make a difference and raise awareness at the same time.

Nationally it has been promoted by United Technologies Corporation (UTC) and locally also with assistance from the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA)



The stated goal is to focus on cleaning up and making more “green” the school itself. However under the leadership of Mr. David Mangus the Engineering Teacher and Mr. Michael Maziarz the principal, the scope of the efforts has expanded to include parts of the three surrounding neighborhoods, Asylum Hill, Parkville and Frog Hollow. When you have more than 170 students show up along with at least another 30 volunteers, you have to keep them all busy.



There were a total of 13 different projects that the students were able to choose from. Aside from the 4 areas of litter cleanup, there were 3 different opportunities to work in

gardens on the campus, a playground on S. Marshall St that kept more than a dozen students and half a dozen adults busy all morning; a chance to build composting bins from recycled pallets; or build cubbies for the Little Owls Daycare on campus; and two different crews working on the E-waste collection from the school and the community, (eleven pallets worth of obsolete computers, monitors etc.)

About noon time, all the volunteers were given a lunch compliments of Subway and a green apple from UTC. The pride in a job well done that made a real difference came from themselves. For pictures go to <https://goo.gl/photos/rZSM8e2fNNYPHkKMA>