

## Plants Make Positive Places Berry Propagation Bed Planting and Staff Training May 6, 2015

Plants Make Positive Places (P3) is a pilot program working to provide plant material to target Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR) sites. Through staff-led training and in-house plant propagation at Greenland Nursery), P3 will expand plants' positive aesthetic, educational and ecological impact.

Our first staff training day involved the Farm Philly garden educators crew. P3 contractor Eric Blasco led a training on cane fruit (raspberry, blackberry, etc.) planting technique, site analysis for a successful berry patch and compost tea application for healthy soil.

Garden educators planted 120 berry canes, including varieties of blackberries and red, black, and golden

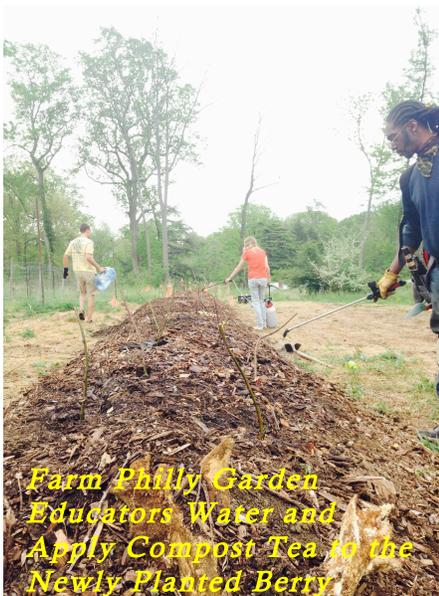
raspberries. The garden bed will be a propagation bed for future berry plant propagation in years to come. Plant cuttings, layering and divisions will provide low-cost berry plants to target parks sites and Farm Philly rec centers.

P3 will offer future trainings with PPR staff as we continue to develop our propagation garden beds. Our next focus for propagation will be on showy native perennial flowers and pollinator plants for PPR sites.



*Demonstrating Berry Planting Technique*

*Pictured from left: Garden educators David Crutchfield (Lower Northeast), Sarah Mueller (Northwest), Allie Wilson (Northeast), FarmPhilly Program Manager Elisa Ruse-Esnosito*



*Farm Philly Garden Educators Water and Apply Compost Tea to the Newly Planted Berry Propagation Bed*

*Pictured from left: Chas Ryan (South), Allie Wilson, David Crutchfield*



PHILADELPHIA  
PARKS & RECREATION