

# Marvin's Organic Gardens donates plants

## Community Press Staff Report

Mason Parks & Recreation workers recently installed \$2,500 of donated landscaping at Pine Hill Lodge in Mason.

Marvin's Organic Gardens donated compost and 40 native shrubs and trees to Mason for the lodge. They were used to landscape around the new pervious pavement parking lot at the lodge.

The donated trees include a rare Ohio native called the American Smoketree (*Cotinus obovatus*), which is different from the more common "purple smoketree." It is hardy in the southwest Ohio region and has seasonal interest over three seasons. Only three are known in the Cincinnati area. It takes two years for the seeds to germinate.

The parking lot at the lodge uses a new type of pavement called porous pavement, which allows rain and snowmelt to pass through it instead of over it.

It reduces runoff and erosion from the site and surrounding areas. It also helps filter out pollutants left by parked cars.

Because porous pavement is used to filter pollutants off parking lot areas, this type of best management practice is useful for commercial and industrial development.

The Pine Hill Lodge parking area is an example of what developers can install as an alternative to the typical asphalt parking lot to protect area creeks and streams.

Pine Hill Lodge is on Kings Mills Road in Mason, next to Pine Hill Lakes Park. It is used by the city for nature programming and summer camps.



PROVIDED. SEND PHOTOS TO: [ESPANGLER@COMMUNITYPRESS.COM](mailto:ESPANGLER@COMMUNITYPRESS.COM) Mason Parks & Recreation employees Devon Martin, Tony Gonzales, and Adam Renn plant bushes and trees donated by Marvin's Organic Gardens at Pine Hill Lodge in Mason.