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**Project Learning Tree Awards Service-Learning Grant to Heathwood Hall Episcopal School in
Columbia**

Washington, D.C. – Project Learning Tree® (PLT), the environmental education program of the American Forest Foundation, announced today that it awarded a *GreenWorks!* grant to Heathwood Hall Episcopal School in Columbia for a project called “Treasured Places from Wasted Spaces.”

“This grant helps support South Carolina young people who are committed to helping their community and the environment,” said Jerry Shrum, South Carolina PLT coordinator.

Heathwood Hall is in the midst of a green campus transformation, including building nature trails and gardens, recycling, and composting. The grant will support the creation of outdoor classrooms using such spaces as retention ponds, ditches, and power line right-of-ways. “Students will turn existing school yard structures typically deemed ‘useless’ into viable wildlife habitats,” said Todd Beasley, project director.

Since 1992, Project Learning Tree has distributed more than \$800,000 to fund nearly 1,000 grant projects in communities across the country.

For more information about *GreenWorks!*, and a complete list of Project Learning Tree’s *GreenWorks!* grants awards, visit www.plt.org or contact Vanessa Bullwinkle, Director of Communications, 202.463.2472 or vbullwinkle@forestfoundation.org. For more information about PLT in South Carolina, contact Jerry Shrum, SC Forestry Commission, 803.896.8892 or jshrum@forestry.state.sc.us.

Project Learning Tree® (PLT) is the environmental education program of the American Forest Foundation. In South Carolina, PLT is sponsored by the SC Forestry Commission. PLT provides educators with comprehensive environmental education curriculum resources that can be integrated into lesson plans for all grades and subject areas. PLT teaches students “how to think, not what to think” about complex environmental issues, and helps students learn the skills they need to make sound choices about the environment.

Developed in 1976, PLT has an international network of more than 500,000 trained educators using PLT materials that cover the total environment. The American Forest Foundation, a nonprofit conservation and education organization, works for healthy forests, quality environmental education, and informed decision-making about our communities and our world.

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