

## Westminster Wraps Eco Stewardship Month by Wrapping Trees



After a month of learning how they can help the environment, Avnet Technology Solutions (TS) employees in Westminster, Colo., went to work protecting it. Twelve employees spent an afternoon wrapping trees at a nearby riparian area endangered by beavers.

“Our building is located near the city’s Open Space District, which had a problem with beavers eating trees,” says Becky Brice, sales and marketing representative. “We spent three hours wrapping 41 trees in fencing wire and driving posts to keep it in place so the trees can’t be harmed.”

Besides the satisfaction that came from helping the local environment, volunteering provided another benefit – camaraderie. “It was a good teambuilding activity; we had to work together to carry heavy equipment and pound the posts,” says Becky. “It was fun to spend time with people you don’t often see at the office.”



The volunteer project was the culmination of Westminster’s Eco Stewardship Month, which also included recycling electronic waste. Employees brought in 21 old computers, monitors and other equipment, which was donated to the Jared Polis Foundation, a nonprofit organization that gives low-income students and families access to technology. Moreover, four bins full of recyclable materials that cannot be reused were collected and picked up by GRX, a nonprofit organization that breaks down the components, recycles any metal and disposes of any toxic substances.

The office also hosted a lunch and learn class that taught employees about the benefits of composting post-consumer waste as well as how to build a composting pile. Additionally, employees received an Eco Awareness tip via e-mail each day.