

Industry rallies to help

ALCC's Southern and Denver Chapters helped local high schools move their training programs forward by creating outdoor areas where students will learn and practice hands-on skills. Southern Chapter members converged at Falcon High School near Colorado Springs to ensure that when Career and Tech Ed (CTE) instructor David Kranz launches the first-ever landscape design/installation curriculum next fall, the infrastructure will be in place for students to learn landscape skills. More than \$75,000 of value was delivered in one day at these two schools.

In Lakewood, Denver Chapter members returned to Green Mountain High School to expand work begun during last year's Day of Service to build more outdoor learning areas. They completed Phase I of a two-year project and now instructor Courtney Mayo's students have seven raised garden beds, graded areas to place a hoop house and chicken coop – plus pathways connecting all the stations. Kranz and Mayo said they were in awe of all that industry pros could accomplish in one day. At both schools, several students were selected by their teachers to work alongside industry volunteers.



Career Pathways schools



DC Mayo (right) and students raised baby chicks in the classroom.

Special thanks to 2017 ALCC Landscape Career Pathways

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Southern Chapter's work at Falcon High School

At the end of a rainy and chilly work day, volunteers and students had completed:

- Four irrigation system stations where students will be able to practice basics of irrigation installation, repair and water management technologies.
- A large garden where students will learn planting and plant maintenance skills along with plant identification.
- A 400-sq. ft. area with stations to practice hardscape installation skills, plus calculating slope, creating grades and installing turf.

After the project, Kranz said, "Students at Falcon now have a first-rate outdoor learning area. The ability to get students out of the traditional classroom and get their hands dirty is an awesome opportunity. My hope is that many of these students and pros will be working alongside each other when the students go out and get jobs in the landscaping industry."

Photos courtesy Stephanie Earls and Southern Chapter volunteers



SC Dave Kranz and Elysa Engle



Thank you volunteers

Volunteers came from the following companies:

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