

Eastern students getting set for community cleanup

WILLIMANTIC — On Saturday, Eastern Connecticut State University will host its 10th annual “Town Pride, Town Wide” community beautification event.

The event will take place at various sites in Willimantic from 9 a.m. to noon, with a community gathering on the Eastern campus behind Hurley Hall from noon to 1 p.m.

Town Pride, Town Wide started years ago as a means to give Eastern students the opportunity to work closely with local community members and community agencies and leave their mark on Willimantic.

The event is a collaboration between Eastern’s Center for Community Engagement (CCE), the Windham Region

Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Windham.

Working diligently to enlist campus-wide support from Eastern’s administration, alumni, resident assistants from the Office of House and Residential Life, and student clubs and organizations, the CCE will send out more than 200 Eastern student volunteers to 18 project locations on the day of the event.

“The impact that Town Pride Town Wide has on the community surpasses its overarching goal of beautification,” said CCE Director Kimberly Silcox. “Every year there will always be more weeds to pull, more flowers to plant, more mulch to spread, but the bonds and relationships that are built throughout the community last a lifetime

“Town Pride Town Wide offers Eastern students and local community members alike the unique opportunity to take pride and ownership in our community.”

“The Annual Town Wide Town Pride event is really exceptional in the fact that it creates a truly special partnership between Eastern and the Willimantic community through beautifying the area in which we live,” said Eastern student Carly Perron, who will soon graduate.

“It could not be possible without the willingness and enthusiasm of our community partners and students.”

For more information on Town Pride Town Wide, contact CCE Special Events Coordinator Arielle Thomas at thomasar@easternet.edu or 860-465-5158