

GARDENING

Volunteers help Trees Coalition remove privet plants

From staff reports

Spartanburg County volunteers worked with the **Trees Coalition** to clean up green spaces in honor of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

On Jan. 16, 34 volunteers consisting of members of the Converse College golf team and a class at Wofford College, along with a dozen others from the Trees Coalition pulled up privet plants, improving

spaces along trails at Glendale Shoals Preserve, according to Newt Hardie, president and chairman of the Trees Coalition.

Hardie said volunteers and the Trees Coalition have fun improving trails, parks and green spaces.

The Trees Coalition is an expansion of the Kudzu Coalition, a group that pioneered herbicide-free kudzu removal.

It is a mix of volunteers and paid landscapers who train and work alongside neighborhoods, churches and businesses to provide help in caring for their trees.

Volunteers are always needed to help with various parts of the group's mission.

For more information, call 864-582-0990 or visit <http://treescoalition.org>.



Dr. John Akers and his class from Wofford College patrolled a 3-acre section where the Trees Coalition is experimenting to see whether it can eliminate the privet completely.
PROVIDED BY NEWT HARDIE