

## **UVU Rotaract Partners with Orem Rotary For International Earth Day Service Project**



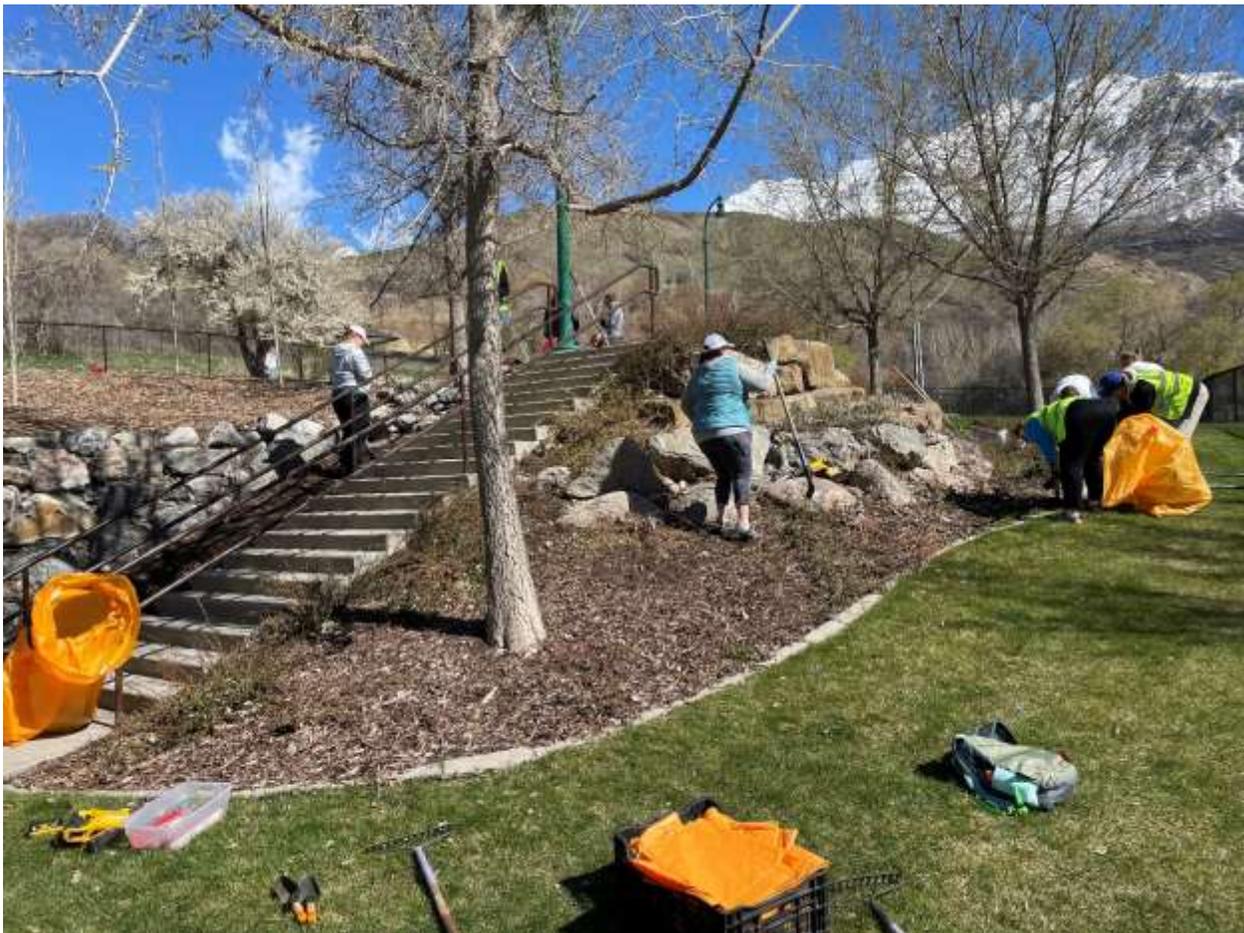
*Orem Rotarians and UVU Rotaractors during service project on 17 April 2021*

On August 17th, 2021, Utah Valley University (UVU) Rotaractors gathered at Timpanogos Park in Provo Canyon to partner with Orem Rotary for an International Earth Day service project, which was commissioned by Orem City. The UVU Office for Global Engagement also supported and participated in this event, as a part of their support of the United Nations' 15th Goal for Sustainable Development, "life on land."

At the park, there were in total 33 participants, including Orem Rotary members, UVU Rotaractors, employees at the UVU Office for Global Engagement, as well as family members

and friends. From UVU Rotaract, there were 10 students in attendance, as well as 10 more BYU students invited to participate.

Orem City had a representative who helped to set up and explain various park clean-up and beautification projects. Projects included trash pickup, weeding, planting new trees and bushes, and others. UVU Rotaractors split up among the various projects, working with various Orem Rotary members.



### *Rotarians and Rotaractors planting new trees*

I was able to work on trash-pickup, along with current vice president Albeny Singh, Rotaractor Jeff Hibbards, and our friends. Rotaractors Abdul and Byan Alghanmi and vice-president elect Andrew Caldwell also picked up trash. Other Orem Rotary club members

including D.J. Smith also helped with trash pickup. We split up along the Provo River Parkway trail in order to effectively cover as much of the area as we could.



***Dean Robertson, Orem Rotary President and his wife Lori Robertson collecting trash.***

Other Rotaractors, including president-elect Dylan Tweed helped to pull out weeds and replant new bushes. Orem Rotary President Dean Robinson and Amy Barnett from the Office of Global Engagement assisted with that as well. After the event, it was estimated that we picked up over 750 pounds of trash and unwanted biomaterial.

UVU Rotaract was extremely grateful to be a participant in this event, and to take action on our community, to support Rotary International goals as well as the UN SDGs right here in Orem, Utah. This event was a great example of how UVU's Student Engaged Learning model

(SEL) creates opportunities for traditional and non-traditional students to contribute to real issues in their community. Our thanks to Orem Rotary, the UVU Office for Global Engagement, and to Orem city for supporting our work and making it possible for us to contribute. We look forward to working closely with Orem Rotary on future service events.

**Yana Andersen, UVU Rotaract President**