

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Smith brings a focus on family programs to TheDCH

*The Delaware Center for Horticulture's new Education Coordinator launches two new series*

The Delaware Center for Horticulture is pleased to introduce **Emily Smith as the center's new Education Coordinator.**

"Smith's fresh ideas are helping TheDCH meet the challenge of expanding environmental and horticulture programming to serve the community even better," says Executive Director Pam Sapko.

With a passion for education and horticulture, Smith aims to expand workshops, lectures, tours, and trips at TheDCH that exposes gardeners of all ages to the wonders of the natural world. In her first months here, she's already organized two new ongoing monthly series: **Family Fun**, aimed at families with children ages 4-10 and **Floral Fun**, a flower arranging workshop for crafters and lovers of the fresh sights and smells of foliage. (The first [classes](#) are scheduled for February 11 and 20, respectively.)



"When I started, I took some time to admire and really learn about the programming that TheDCH already offers to our community. I saw that there are many wonderful ways for adults to get involved, volunteer, and learn about urban horticulture and I immediately felt the same opportunity could be there for families," Smith says.

Smith, who holds a Bachelor's degree in Landscape Horticulture from Southern Illinois University and a Master's degree in Public Horticulture from University of Tennessee, believes gardens provide a perfect environment for children to develop an appreciation and interest in the world around them and she is especially excited about being able to show families with young children how fun gardening and the great outdoors can be.

"It is important for DCH to reach out to 'future' members – and by future, I mean 4 to 10 year olds," she says.

"Not only do we have new family workshops, we also have several new adult workshops planned, including a flower arrangement of the month series. Keep your eyes out for new and exciting opportunities for families and youth this summer and fall. AND of course, we'll be offering some amazing garden tours and workshops."

*Fun Fact:* Smith Grew up on a grain farm in central Illinois, and developed a green thumb as a toddler, digging in the soil and "helping" in the garden. Today, she loves cooking, especially when it involves trying fresh new ingredients.

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The **Delaware Center for Horticulture** cultivates greener communities by inspiring appreciation and improvement of the environment through horticulture, education and conservation. Founded in 1977, TheDCH headquarters in Wilmington's Trolley Square is an oasis in the city. The venue boasts a great space for weddings and corporate events, a public demonstration garden that backs up to Brandywine Park, an art gallery, and greenhouse. TheDCH plants thousands of trees and leads regional projects to enhance Delaware's urban forests; supports dozens of community gardens, urban farms, and school gardens; organizes city park improvement projects; beautifies Delaware's roadsides with native vegetation; maintains the landscaping of many traffic medians and streetscapes; and provides educational programs for children, teens, and adults. Members of TheDCH and more than 750 active volunteers come from Delaware and the surrounding region. For more information, visit [TheDCH.org](http://TheDCH.org).