

Delaware Center for Horticulture has been at the forefront of the community greening initiative in Wilmington for 37 years.

HISTORY
TheDCH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Founded as the Wilmington Garden Center by a group of dedicated volunteers in **1977**, the organization was originally located along the historic Market Street Mall in downtown Wilmington. In the early days, TheDCH sponsored community gardens, plant sales, and educational workshops.

The **1981** acquisition of a customized bread truck expanded our capacity to conduct neighborhood-based outreach. In **1993**, we relocated to a former Wilmington Parks and Recreation maintenance facility located on North Dupont Street in Trolley Square. The relocation enabled the organization to expand educational programming and greening initiatives.

Expanded in **2002**, the 1.3 acre resource facility is surrounded by an educational demonstration garden. The garden includes salvaged balustrades (cir. 1905-1907) from Wilmington's Van Buren Street Bridge, and Brandywine Park lamp posts (cir. 1930's) that add architectural and historic presence to the garden. The site also houses lecture and workshop rooms, offices, storage space, and a community art gallery.

Collaborations with social service, municipal, and government agencies, along with neighborhood groups, afford TheDCH the opportunity to perpetuate our mission of cultivating a greener community by inspiring appreciation and improvement of our environment through horticulture, education and conservation.

Today, much of our work occurs in low income neighborhoods with higher rates of disease, environmental contamination, and poor access to healthy foods. TheDCH supports more than 24 community gardens and an urban farm in Wilmington and its nearby suburbs. We have worked with communities to plant over 13,065 trees throughout Delaware since 1982 and have enhanced more than 100 public landscapes throughout the State.



Green renovations and expansion of our Trolley Square headquarters will help us better serve Delaware through 2025 & beyond.

