



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DCH Plants 57 Trees in Wilmington through Community Development Block Grant

Wilmington, DE – The city of Wilmington is now home to 57 more trees thanks to the efforts of the Delaware Center for Horticulture (DCH) and the Wilmington Department of Real Estate & Housing through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Starting in 1974, the CDBG program is one of the longest continuously run programs at HUD and provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs. DCH has led the urban canopy implementation of the CDBG program throughout the city of Wilmington and overseen the planting of more than 1,500 trees citywide.

“Year after year, we are so grateful to be a part of this meaningful and positive effort to improve and beautify our city,” said Sam Seo, DCH Community Forester. “This program gives us the unique opportunity to connect with industry and government partners, civic leaders, and neighborhood associations to identify communities in need of the tree canopy that is so vital to cleaning our air and water.”

The 2017 program planted 57 trees of 22 different species in the Trinity Vicinity, Hedgeville, Northeast, and Eastside sections of the city. In keeping with the criteria of the HUD program, all trees are planted in low- to moderate-income census blocks. DCH partnered with the Inter-Neighborhood Foundation of Wilmington, Trinity Vicinity Neighborhood Association, and Washington Heights Neighborhood Association to select specific urban areas in need of the trees for storm water mitigation and beautification efforts. DCH worked with the Davey Tree Expert Company for the installation of the trees, and each planted tree included a watering device to ease the watering burden on homeowners while the trees establish their root system in the ground. For a complete list of trees planted as part of the 2017 CDBG program, please visit <https://www.thedch.org/content/2017-cdbg-tree-list>.