

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Press Conference & Hard Hat Tours of TheDCH Construction**

*Sept. 17 celebration highlights environmentally-responsible construction, & new infrastructure that saves energy, improves drinking water, educates, and furthers greening efforts statewide*

Construction is well under way at the Delaware Center for Horticulture, and we're excited to share our progress with the public. Please join us September 17, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. for a Press Conference and Hard Hat Tour of the green renovations and expansion going on at our Trolley Square headquarters.



The event includes comments by TheDCH leadership, Q & A, refreshments, photo opportunities and tours. Phase I of the project, which includes a 7,000 square foot expansion and walk-out green roof, is expected to be complete in November 2014.

The project aims to equip the organization to improve and expand its greening programs that serve diverse urban and suburban populations in Delaware well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. **During the tour, you'll learn about practices we're incorporating during construction that mitigate negative environmental impact, and you'll see green improvements that save energy, reduce pollutants, and provide the public opportunities for hands-on learning about environmentally conscious building features.** Look for [pictures on Facebook](#), visit TheDCH website for detailed information about the [Capital Campaign & Construction](#), [mark your calendars](#), and [RSVP for the Sept 17 event now](#).

Here's a recap of recent activities:

- On June 16, the Board of Directors voted to move forward with the **\$1.8 million Phase I** of the project, which includes expanded program workspace, replacing mechanical equipment with high efficiency units, new roofing with improved insulation, a green roof infinity garden, an energy efficient glass atrium roof, and a renovated courtyard.
- **Demolition began July 9**, and construction started a few weeks later. To date, the foundation, steel frame and concrete floor of the **7,000 square foot garden-side addition**, and installation of the base of the walk-out green roof is under way. In the existing building: framing, electrical work, and stormwater management improvements are under way.
- Fund raising efforts continue for **Phase II**, which includes a multi-use classroom, courtyard improvements for stormwater management, and a \$500,000 building endowment fund.

*The Delaware Center for Horticulture cultivates a greener community; inspiring appreciation and improvement of our environment through horticulture, education and conservation. We create neighborhoods that are healthier, more attractive and ecologically sustainable. Our work includes community gardens, public landscapes, road-side beautification, tree programs, educational programs and community and membership events. The DCH is the only nonprofit membership organization that mobilizes and inspires community greening statewide in urban and suburban environments.*