PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

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Keeping ancient cemetery trees alive at Wilmington & Brandywine

TheDCH & Kerns Bros. bring together ISA arborists for Arbor Day event

At least two huge ginkgo trees in the historic Wilmington & Brandywine Cemetery date to the 1840’s – making these living symbols of hope older than almost everyone buried on the downtown property.

The Delaware Center for Horticulture, Kerns Bros. Tree Service, and other professionals certified by the International Society of Arboriculture will be donating their time, equipment and expertise 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23 to help keep the ginkgos alive and thriving, and to remediate potential hazards by removing and pruning some of the scores of trees on the property, including six other significant trees listed in the Delaware Department of Agriculture’s Big Trees of Delaware registry.

Photo opportunities include arborists working high up in equipment donated by Bob’s Crane Service, and logs being hauled off with a front end loader to be upcycled for use in furniture and other projects rather than being chipped for mulch. Some of the cemetery’s trees are in a state of decline and pose a hazard to the living, so there will also be removals in addition to pruning of large trees.

Location: Wilmington & Brandywine Cemetery is located at 701 Delaware Avenue in Wilmington, nestled between Christiana Care’s Wilmington Hospital and the on-ramp to I-95.

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 supports numerous community gardens and school gardens; organizes park improvement projects, beautifies Delaware’s roadsides with native vegetation; maintains the landscaping of many urban streetscapes; leads regional community forestry projects; and provides educational programs for children, teens, and adults. For more information, visit thedch.org.