

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 14, 2016

CONTACT: Catherine Kempista
ckempista@TheDCH.org
302.388.5597

DCH Partners with TD Bank and Local Organizations to Plant Trees at Mt. Zion Cemetery

Wilmington, DE – As part of a successful, multi-year collaboration, the Delaware Center for Horticulture (DCH) partnered with TD Bank to participate in TD Tree Days, a cooperative effort to plant trees in local communities in need. With \$6,000 in support from TD Bank through the Arbor Day Foundation, 22 TD Bank employee volunteers planted 35 new trees at Mt. Zion Cemetery in Wilmington. This volunteer effort supported the ongoing efforts of the Mt. Zion Cemetery Association (MZCA) and the Black Cemetery Restoration Civic Association (BCRCA) to refurbish and beautify the cemetery.

“TD Bank is proud to partner with DCH to create greener open spaces in Wilmington,” said Joe Doolan, U.S. Head of Environmental Affairs for TD Bank. “As an environmental leader, TD Bank focuses on areas where we can make the most impact and strengthen the physical and human fabric of our communities. We are thrilled so many volunteers provided support for our local parks and opens spaces where we live and work.”

As a component of TD Forests, the bank’s environmental initiative to expand urban forestry throughout the footprint and enhance community and economic development, TD Bank partners with various community organizations for TD Tree Days. The tree planting events take place throughout October in communities in need. The trees planted provide health, environmental, and recreational benefits, including improved air quality, shade for buildings, and can help mitigate the effects of climate change.

“We are so grateful to TD Bank and its wonderful team of employees who supported this cause, which is so important to Wilmington and New Castle County’s cultural history,” said Vikram Krishnamurthy, DCH Executive Director. “We are again humbled to support the efforts of MZCA and BCRCA, as they continue their mission to restore the cemetery grounds and honor the memory of the deceased. The work performed here today is in honor of those buried on this hallowed ground, including African American veterans, professionals, families, and Wilmington’s own revered jazz musician Clifford Brown, all of whom deserve a final resting ground as beautiful as the life each individual lived.”

“The Board is pleased to receive this assistance to continue our effort to restore this historical cemetery to preserve the history of our community,” said The Honorable Alex J. Smalls, Chief Judge of the Delaware Court of Common Pleas, and President of the Mt. Zion Cemetery Association.

Volunteers planted a variety of juniper, serviceberry, magnolia, blackgum, and dogwood trees throughout the grounds of the cemetery. The grant funding supports the purchase of the trees and will provide for two years of maintenance for the trees.

The Delaware Center for Horticulture cultivates a greener community, inspiring appreciation and improvement of our environment through horticulture, education, and conservation.



America's Most Convenient Bank®

Follow TD Tree Days on Twitter at [#www.twitter.com/TDBank_US](https://www.twitter.com/TDBank_US) #TDTreeDays and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TDBank. Follow DCH on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TheDCH.org and on Instagram at www.instagram.com/delawarecenterforhorticulture.

About TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank®

TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is one of the 10 largest banks in the U.S., providing more than 8 million customers with a full range of retail, small business, and commercial banking products and services at more than 1,200 convenient locations throughout the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Metro D.C., the Carolinas and Florida.

###

The Delaware Center for Horticulture cultivates a greener community, inspiring appreciation and improvement of our environment through horticulture, education, and conservation.

TheDCH.org | 1810 N. Dupont Street, Wilmington, DE 19806 | 302.658.6262