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New Delaware Center for Horticulture publication wins national awards

“Our Urban Forest” report recognized for writing and design

WILMINGTON – The Delaware Center for Horticulture (DCH) is pleased to announce that a new publication entitled “Our Urban Forest” and its corresponding website, have won awards in a national competition. The ECO Awards recognize outstanding achievement by environmental communications professionals from across the country. This annual competition is open to all individuals, companies, government agencies, and organizations involved in the production of environmental communications – not just “green” organizations.

“Our Urban Forest” is a report on the trees in the city of Wilmington and the New Castle County Metropolitan Corridor, an area stretching across the state that encompasses Wilmington, Newark, Elsmere, New Castle, and Newport. The publication summarizes several years of research, but is designed to be easily understood by non-scientists. It outlines measurable benefits provided by trees in our communities and describes the process DCH uses to build a broad-based coalition to support the urban forest. The report also proposes a vision for the future of trees in northern Delaware and recommends next steps to achieve it.

The ECO Awards judges gave their highest honor, the Award of Excellence, to the printed booklet. Comments from the panel were glowing. “Clear, effective copy makes for informative reading. Beautiful photography complements a pleasing layout - page after page. *Our Urban Forest* is a stellar example of first-class environmental writing and design.”

A website created by Verve Internet Solutions to complement the printed booklet was also recognized with an Award of Merit. The site invites visitors to navigate throughout the entire content of the report and allows DCH to post updates as efforts to improve Delaware’s urban forest progresses.

[Click here](http://www.environmentalcommunicator.com/ECO Awards2009.aspx) to see a complete list of 2009 ECO Award winners:
<http://www.environmentalcommunicator.com/ECO Awards2009.aspx>

To read DCH’s award-winning report online or to download a PDF go to:
<http://urbanforest.dehort.org>

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The **Delaware Center for Horticulture (DCH)** cultivates greener communities by inspiring appreciation and improvement of the environment through horticulture, education and conservation. Founded in 1977, the Center's site in Wilmington, Delaware includes a 1.5 acre educational demonstration garden, a 3,000 volume lending library, an art gallery, a lecture hall and a greenhouse. DCH supports 16 active community gardens throughout the city of Wilmington; organizes park improvement projects, beautifies Delaware's roadsides with native vegetation; maintains the landscaping of many urban gateways, corridors, and streetscapes; leads regional conservation projects to enhance Delaware's urban forest; and provides educational programs for children, teens, and adults. For more information, visit www.dehort.org