



DELAWARE
**CENTER FOR
 HORTICULTURE**
Cultivating a greener community

For Immediate Release

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Delaware Center for Horticulture Receives National NeighborWoods Grant
Sponsored by Alliance for Community Trees and The Home Depot Foundation

Wilmington, Del. (June 15, 2009) – The Delaware Center for Horticulture today announced that it will receive a \$9,355 grant from the Alliance for Community Trees (ACT) and The Home Depot® Foundation. This challenge grant is part of the National NeighborWoods Program™, made possible through generous support of The Home Depot Foundation. NeighborWoods is a nationwide initiative that engages the public in meaningful hands-on action to produce tangible improvements to community health through tree planting and stewardship. Delaware Center for Horticulture is one of eleven organizations nationwide who will receive a NeighborWoods™ award in support of partnerships between urban forestry non-profits and affordable housing providers.

In partnership with Habitat for Humanity and the City of Wilmington Real Estate and Housing, Delaware Center for Horticulture will use this grant to plant 40 trees on the property of new homeowners in several low-income neighborhoods across Wilmington. Delaware Center for Horticulture's efforts will help revitalize these older inner-city areas on the east side and northeast of Wilmington, where median family income fluctuates around \$30,000. Homeowners will join with Delaware Center for Horticulture and The Home Depot volunteers, university students, corporate volunteers and other area residents to plant new, neighborhood-beautifying trees in their yards. They will benefit from the improved air and water quality, increased shade, lower summer temperatures and lower energy costs that new trees will bring. Delaware Center for Horticulture will educate residents about the value of trees in the urban environment and train them on proper tree maintenance so that their trees will survive as sustainable revitalizing tools in these low-income Wilmington communities.

The Delaware Center for Horticulture (DCH) cultivates greener communities by inspiring appreciation and improvement of the environment through horticulture, education and conservation. DCH supports 16 active community gardens; beautifies Delaware's roadsides with native vegetation; maintains the landscaping of many urban gateways and streets; leads regional conservation projects to enhance Delaware's urban forest; and provides a variety of educational programs. For more information, visit www.dehort.org

About Alliance for Community Trees

Alliance for Community Trees (ACT) is dedicated to improving the health and livability of cities by planting and caring for trees. With 160 grassroots affiliates in 40 states and Canada, ACT engages volunteers to take action to improve the environment where 80% of people live – in urban areas. ACT member organizations have planted and cared for 14.9 million trees in cities with help from 4.3 million volunteers. For more information, visit www.actrees.org.

About The Home Depot Foundation

The Home Depot Foundation was created in 2002 to further the community building goals of The Home Depot. The Home Depot Foundation is dedicated to building affordable homes for working families that are healthy to live in and affordable to own. To make homes healthy and affordable, the Foundation encourages developers to incorporate responsible design and use durable and quality materials to ensure that homes are more energy and water efficient, have good indoor air quality, and provide a safe and healthy space to live. Since its formation, The Home Depot Foundation has granted \$120 million to nonprofit organizations and supported the development of more than 65,000 affordable, healthy homes. For more information, visit www.homedepotfoundation.org.

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