

## NEWS RELEASE

**For more information, contact:**

Jodie Littleton  
Communications Consultant  
Adkins Arboretum  
410.490.6930  
jlittleton@adkinsarboretum.org



---

**(RIDGELY, MD—May 22, 2013)**

### **Experience the Relationship between Nature and the Underground Railroad during Adkins Arboretum Audio Tour Launch June 1**

The Eastern Shore's natural landscape provided a passageway to freedom along the Underground Railroad for hundreds, possibly thousands, of slaves, including abolitionists Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman. Designated as a "Place to Visit" on the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway, Adkins Arboretum reflects the conditions through which freedom seekers traveled en route to freedom. On Sat., June 1, join a special evening event celebrating the launch of "A Journey Begins: Nature's Role in the Flight to Freedom," a new Arboretum audio tour that explores the little-known relationship between nature and the Underground Railroad.



Developed by Arboretum staff and volunteers in concert with noted historians Anthony Cohen and Dr. Kate Clifford Larson and consultants Q Media Productions, and funded through generous grant support from Maryland Humanities Council and Maryland Heritage Area Authority, this educational and thought-provoking self-guided tour examines how nature provided both obstacles and opportunities for freedom seekers. The story of nature and the Underground Railroad also interprets the profound connection between landscapes and historic

conditions and events, emphasizing the importance of preserving native landscapes throughout the Chesapeake Bay region.

The audio tour launch runs from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Join this special evening to celebrate the project's completion, meet the project team, and experience the tour. Refreshments will be served. The event is free and open to the public; reservations are required at [adkinsarboretum.org](http://adkinsarboretum.org).

###

*Adkins Arboretum is a 400-acre native garden and preserve at the headwaters of the Tuckahoe Creek in Caroline County. Open year round, the Arboretum offers educational programs for all ages about nature and gardening. Through its [Campaign to Build a Green Legacy](#), it will build the [W. Flaccus and Ruth B. Stifel Center at Adkins Arboretum](#) and a "green" entranceway to broaden educational offerings and research initiatives promoting best practices in conservation and land stewardship. For additional information about Arboretum programs, visit [www.adkinsarboretum.org](http://www.adkinsarboretum.org) or call 410-634-2847, ext. 0.*

**Adkins Arboretum 12610 Eveland Road P.O. Box 100 Ridgely, MD 21620**  
**410.634.2847 [www.adkinsarboretum.org](http://www.adkinsarboretum.org) [info@adkinsarboretum.org](mailto:info@adkinsarboretum.org)**