NEWS RELEASE

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(RIDGELY, MD—September 22, 2013)

Adkins Arboretum Offers Free Admission on Sat., Sept. 28 for Smithsonian Museum Day

Adkins Arboretum will waive admission fees on Sat., Sept. 28 in recognition of Smithsonian magazine's ninth annual Museum Day. A celebration of culture, learning and the dissemination of knowledge, Museum Day reflects the free-admission policy of the Smithsonian Institution's museums in Washington, D.C. Doors of museums and cultural institutions nationwide will be open free of charge.

The public is invited on Museum Day to explore the Arboretum's 400 acres of native woodlands, wetlands, gardens and meadows along five miles of maintained paths. Visitors may enjoy an audio tour that provides lessons about the Arboretum's plant communities and ecology, as well as *A Journey Begins: Nature's Role in the Flight to Freedom*, an audio tour that explores the relationship between nature and the Underground Railroad. A wide variety of ornamental native perennials, trees, shrubs and grasses will be for sale for fall planting. Arboretum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information about Adkins Arboretum, visit <u>adkinsarboretum.org</u>. For information about Smithsonian Museum Day, visit <u>http://www.smithsonianmag.com/museumday/</u>.

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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 <u>Campaign to Build a Green Legacy</u>, it will build the <u>W. Flaccus and Ruth B. Stifel Center at Adkins Arboretum</u> 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 <u>www.adkinsarboretum.org</u> or call 410-634-2847, ext. 0.

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