



City of Auburn, Maine Public Services Department

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Project Canopy Partners with Alliance for Community Trees and TD Bank to Plant Trees in the City of Auburn

May 23, 2014 – Auburn, Maine –Project Canopy, the Maine Forest Service’s (MFS) urban and community forestry program, is excited to announce the timely award of a tree planting grant to the City of Auburn, during Maine’s Arbor week. Staff from MFS and Auburn Public Services will join employees from TD Bank, America’s Most Convenient Bank® and Alliance for Community Trees (ACTrees) during October at Pettengill Park, the PAL Center, and along the Chestnut Trail to participate in TD Tree Days, a cooperative effort to plant new trees in local communities in need.

Project Canopy is a cooperative partnership between the Maine Forest Service, under the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF), and Grow Smart Maine, a statewide organization that supports sustainable prosperity. Cooperation between the LePage administration and private entities make projects like this possible.

As part of TD Forests, the bank’s environmental initiative to reduce paper usage and increase protected forest habitat, TD Bank and ACTrees are partnering with multiple community organizations for TD Tree Days. The tree planting events will take place from Maine to Florida in September and October in communities and neighborhoods in need. The tree species are tolerant of tough urban conditions, provide shade, beauty, wildlife habitat, and help with environmental issues such as storm water retention and more.

“We are very grateful to TD Bank for its investment of time and resources in improving the City of Auburn,” Santerre said. “This is a tremendous example of how the state can partner with private corporations for public good, a concept that is a touchstone of the LePage administration.”

Volunteers will plant **120** trees on the Chestnut Trail **and its surroundings**, which need new trees for shade; air, water and noise buffering; traffic calming; and soil erosion. The trees also will add beauty and four-season interest to an otherwise hard gray landscape.

“TD Bank and our employees are proud to partner with **the City of Auburn, Project Canopy** and ACTrees to create greener open spaces in Auburn said Diana Glassman,

Vice President and 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 that so many volunteers will be providing support for our local parks and opens spaces where we live and work.”

“People understand instinctively that trees are vital to communities,” says Carrie Gallagher, ACTrees Executive Director. “They clean and filter the air, provide shade for streets and parks, and help to manage stormwater and water pollution. Our partnership with TD Bank is helping more people and places get the many benefits of trees.”

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