

Press Release for Immediate Distribution

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PROJECT CANOPY PARTNERS WITH ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY TREES AND TO BANK TO PLANT TREES IN THE CITY OF AUBURN

AUBURN, MAINE –Project Canopy, the Maine Forest Service's (MFS) urban and community forestry program is excited to announce the award of a tree planting grant to the City of Auburn. Staff from MFS and Auburn Public Services will join employees from TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank® and Alliance for Community Trees (ACTrees) on Friday, October 10, 2014 at Pettengill Park, Chestnut Park and along Whitney Street to participate in TD Tree Days, a cooperative effort to plant new trees in local communities in need.

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 **100** trees at Pettengill Park, Chestnut Park and along Whitney Street. The new trees will provide shade, air, water and noise buffering, traffic calming, and soil erosion. The trees will also add beauty and four-season interest to an otherwise hard, gray landscape.

Press Release cont.: Tree Planting in Auburn

"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 storm water and water pollution. Our partnership with TD Bank is helping more people and places get the many benefits of trees."

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