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Tyler Arboretum Fact Sheet

- Tyler Arboretum is a non-profit public garden in Delaware County, Pa., serving the Greater Philadelphia region, and encompasses 650 acres of renowned plant collections, heritage and champion trees, historic buildings and 17 miles of hiking trails through woodlands, wetlands and meadows.
- Tyler's mission is *to preserve, develop and share our diverse horticultural, historic and natural site resources in order to stimulate stewardship and an understanding of our living world.*
- Tyler Arboretum was founded in 1944, when the property was bequeathed by Laura Tyler for use as an arboretum.
- Between 1681 and 1944, the property was owned by eight generations of the same Minshall/Painter/Tyler family. Until 1944, it was a working farm and served as a summer residence for the Tyler family.
- The Arboretum began as a private horticultural collection developed in the mid-19th century by Minshall and Jacob Painter, two Quaker brothers who owned the historic farmstead.
- Today the Arboretum features exhibits of heritage magnolias, cherries, crabapples, hollies, lilacs and 11 acres of rhododendrons and azaleas. Herbs are featured in the Fragrant Garden. The Vegetable Demonstration Garden promotes healthy eating. An extensive collection of conifers is displayed in the Pinetum. Habitat-based displays include the Native Woodland Walk, the bird garden and the Stopford Family Meadow Maze.
- Tyler oversees the preservation of several historic buildings, including Lachford Hall, a stone Pennsylvania bank barn, the Painter Library and several 19th century outbuildings including a root cellar, springhouse and greenhouse.
- School programs serve nearly 7,000 elementary and preschool students from 20 districts in four states. Eco-birthday parties and summer camps are available to further connect children to nature in fun and unique ways.
- Nine tree houses (open mid-April through December) currently provide distinct and unique opportunities for children and adults to explore nature in the *Totally Terrific Treehouses* exhibit.
- The 1,400-square-foot Butterfly House, which is open in July and August, is filled with native butterflies, caterpillars, chrysalis and the plants they depend upon for survival.
- Special events are hosted at Tyler throughout the year.
- Weddings and other celebrations are held at Tyler in conjunction with Jeffrey A. Miller Catering.