

PRESS RELEASE**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 31, 2015

Laura Kunkle

Communications & Media Relations Specialist

LauraK@AmericanHort.org

614-884-1137 Direct

Nursery Tour Planned for Minneapolis Area

Columbus, Ohio – AmericanHort announced today that it will host a tour this fall of growing facilities in the Minneapolis region. The Field & Covered Production Tour, September 15-16, will combine classroom education and tours of nursery operations.

Tour stops include Bailey Nurseries, Bachman's Nursery Wholesale Center, Gertens Greenhouses & Garden Center, and the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. **Bailey Nurseries**, Newport, MN, is recognized as one of the largest wholesale nurseries, with products distributed by more than 4,500 independent garden centers, landscapers, growers, and re-wholesalers. **Bachman's Nursery Wholesale Center**, Farmington, MN, started 30 years ago and has grown to be a premier provider of landscape plants and hardscape products for landscape professionals throughout the upper Midwest. **Gertens Greenhouses & Garden Center**, Inver Grove Heights, MN, is a retail growing operation that provides one of the area's largest selections of nursery stock, perennials, and annuals. **Minnesota Landscape Arboretum**, Chaska, MN, has more than 1,200 acres of gardens and tree collections, prairie and woods, and miles of trails. Participants on the tour will gain a better understanding of industry trends, have an opportunity to learn best practices, and make valuable industry connections.

The classroom portion of the two-day event will provide the latest information on neonicotinoids and pollinator health; rack loads vs floor/deck stack loads; lighting, CO₂, and temperature; community gravel beds to diversify urban forests; and an update on research projects affecting the horticulture industry.

Information about the event, tour locations, and registration information is available at www.AmericanHort.org/Tour.

#

AmericanHort was formed in 2014 by the consolidation of the American Nursery & Landscape Association and OFA – The Association of Horticulture Professionals. With a combined history of 220+ years, AmericanHort supports nearly 16,000 member and affiliated businesses that include breeders, greenhouse and nursery growers, garden retailers, distributors, interior and exterior landscape professionals, florists, students, educators, researchers, manufacturers, and all of those who are part of the industry market chain. The horticulture industry's production, wholesale, retail, and landscape service components have annual sales of \$163 billion, and sustain over 1,150,000 full- and part-time jobs. Our mission is to unite, promote, and advance the horticulture industry through advocacy, collaboration, connectivity, education, market development, and research. The association has offices in Columbus, Ohio for administration and member services, and in Washington, DC to facilitate government relations and research activities.