



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE TOWER COMPANIES PARTICIPATES IN THE 5TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL GREEN APPLE DAY OF SERVICE TO SERVE LOCAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS

Rockville, MD (September 16, 2016) – The Tower Companies is pleased to announce that on September 15th, nearly 100 employees and partners came together to participate in the [5th Annual Community Service Project](#), at Sligo Creek Elementary School and Silver Spring International Middle School. This event was part of a larger global movement, the Green Apple Day of Service, an initiative from the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council that brings together advocates from around the world and encourages taking action through service projects at local schools. The Day of Service, now in its fifth year, provides an opportunity for students, teachers, parents, elected officials, organizations, companies and others to transform all schools into healthy, safe, cost-efficient and productive learning places. Tower employees have participated in the annual event since its inception by working with schools located in the school district of Tower's largest residential project, [The Blairs](#), in Silver Spring, MD. This year, the Tower Team was delighted to be joined by Montgomery County Council Member Tom Hucker, who represents District 5 that includes Silver Spring, MD.

"Green Apple Day of Service is an opportunity to bring together students, educators and community members to create greener and healthier learning environments, develop a culture of sustainability and conservation and promote environmental stewardship, Montgomery County is committed to environmental sustainability especially in our schools, but there is always more we can do to make our community greener. The Tower Companies has a proven track record of prioritizing sustainability, efficiency and conservation in their buildings and for supporting the greater Silver Spring community, and I am excited to join their employees this year as they work on the outdoor classroom at Sligo Creek Elementary School and Silver Spring International Middle School."

Tower achieved 100% employee participation and engaged industry partners to assist with projects in the outdoor classroom space, an area shared by both the elementary and middle schools. The Outdoor Classroom is an internal courtyard that provides an opportunity for students to take a hands-on approach to traditional lessons. It has become a learning laboratory where teachers turn discussions about cooperation and responsibility into lessons and where students observe the natural environment through wildlife habitat, weather observation, and harvesting their own food.

"Since my father started the family business almost 70 years ago, we have enjoyed engaging in and contributing to the local community through employee volunteerism and philanthropy," said Jeffrey Abramson, partner at The Tower Companies. "To align with this commitment, we are proud to offer paid time off to employees interested in giving back to the community and this year, I'm excited to see our entire Tower Team volunteering together to create an even bigger impact for our local schools."

This year, volunteers spent over 400 community service hours to enhance the outdoor learning environment for students. These projects include constructing raised vegetable gardens and planters with herbs to teach students about the importance of locally harvested and healthy food options, maintaining 800 SF of conservation landscape with native plantings to help treat rain water, building a new 64 SF shed to hold tools for parents, staff, and students who work in the outdoor classroom, designing and installing custom colorful welcome signs, and weather-proofing benches and tables to preserve them for many school years to come.

Tower joined together with generous partners to organize a successful and rewarding day. Thank you to Art Display Co, Clark Construction, Design Collective, Inc., Geppetto Catering, RainScapes for School, Rock Creek Conservancy, Ruppert Landscaping, and lastly to the staff and parents at the Sligo Creek Elementary School and Silver Spring International Middle School for their enthusiasm and support.

About The Tower Companies

For three generations, the family-owned Tower Companies has maintained a commitment to responsible development and envisions a world where buildings inspire and enrich the lives of their occupants, and create positive social change. The green building leader owns, develops, and manages over 5 million square feet in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area consisting of office buildings, office parks, lifestyle centers, regional malls, eco-progressive live-work-play communities and hotels with over 8,000,000 SF in the development pipeline. The Tower Companies is recognized as an international authority in the industry, and has been recognized for its commitment to sustainability and energy independence by numerous national organizations and federal agencies, including US Green Building Council, US Department of Energy and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

About the Center for Green Schools at U.S. Green Building Council and Green Apple Day of Service

The Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), the organization behind Green Apple Day of Service, was founded to ensure green schools for every child in this generation. The Center believes that all students deserve the opportunity to attend schools that sustain the world they live in, enhance their health and well-being, and prepare them for 21st century careers. Since 2012, more than 750,000 volunteers in 73 countries have had an impact on the learning environments of 7 million students and teachers around the world.

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