

Historic RittenhouseTown

A National Historic Landmark



April 25, 2016

Press Advisory

Students and Adults Pay it Forward in Historic RittenhouseTown

This week, both students and adults will honor one of Philadelphia's most iconic landmarks, Historic RittenhouseTown, over two days of volunteering and community service. On Friday, April 29th, the entire 6th grade class of the William Penn Charter School will go to work at Historic RittenhouseTown as part of their Middle School Day of Service. And on Saturday, April 30th, over one hundred employees of Comcast will offer their service to Historic RittenhouseTown as part of their "Comcast Cares" community giving.

"We really welcome the help," said Chris Owens, Executive Director. "We couldn't keep up the twenty-five acre landscape if it weren't for these wonderful volunteers giving of their time and effort."

During the course of the two days, the grounds will be cleared of exotic and invasive plants, the "Barn" (where the paper making studio is) will be painted, annuals will be planted around the Abraham Rittenhouse Home and a kitchen garden next to the Bake House (ca. 1725) will be prepared for planting.

"Historic RittenhouseTown is a vibrant community of activities and learning," said Owens. "Over two thousand school children come each year to learn about papermaking, we offer book and paper making classes for all ages, we have apiary classes and maintain ten honey bee hives, and we provide tours of our 18th century village all through the summer months."

Established in 1690, by William Rittenhouse, RittenhouseTown is the site of the very first paper mill in British North America. It is also the birthplace of David Rittenhouse, the renowned astronomer, inventor and first director of the United States Mint.

For more information on the upcoming volunteer days, contact Chris Owens, Executive Director at 215 438 5711 or 215 378 3281 (cell) or executivedirector@rittenhousetown.org or visit the RittenhouseTown website at <http://rittenhousetown.org>.

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The watermark of William Rittenhouse, America's first papermaker—1690