

Emerald Necklace News

May 2009

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ENC Develops New Course for Elderhostel *To be offered June 17 & 24; space limited - [sign up now.](#)*

In an exciting **new partnership**, ENC has developed and will lead a program entitled, "**The Emerald Necklace: The History, Gardens and Changing Landscape of the Back Bay Fens**," for [Elderhostel](#), a not-for-profit organization that offers learning opportunities through classes and educational travel. **The Museum of Fine Arts (MFA)** is graciously providing the classroom space for this activity.

The course, featured in Elderhostel's recent, [A Day of Discovery](#) program brochure, combines a guided walking tour of the **gardens of the Back Bay Fens** with a classroom slide presentation and lecture. Participants will tour the **Kelleher Rose Garden** and **Richard D. Parker Community Gardens** in the Fens, and, accompanied by a museum curator, will visit the **Japanese Garden at the Museum of Fine Arts**.

The program will be offered two days: **Wednesday, June 17th and Wednesday, June 24th** and runs from **10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**, with lunch included.

Learn more or sign up for this program [here](#).

Muddy River Cleanup *300+ Volunteers Join Effort.*

Quick Links

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Upcoming Events

Note: Conservancy events are in green.

May

Saturday, May 9

10am - 1pm

Volunteer Day at the Riverway

Help prune winter dead from small trees and shrubs, and clear leaves and debris. Space is limited; RSVP to Catherine Pedemonti at cpedemonti@emeraldnecklace.org

Saturday, May 9

8:30am

The Arnold Arboretum Park Conservancy leads a free bird walk at the Bussey Brook Meadow led by docent Robert Mayer. Starts from the South Street Gate at South St. For more info call 617-542-8552

Sunday, May 10

Dawn to Dusk

Arnold Arboretum hosts Lilac Sunday

with special activities from 10am - 4pm. For more info [click here](#)

Tuesday, May 12

5:30pm - 7:30pm

Volunteer with Tuesdays with Roses at the Kelleher Rose Garden, Back Bay Fens

Join us to prune the roses of winter damage and remove mulch from beds. All welcome. Training, gloves and tools provided. Sign up at: cpedemonti@emeraldnecklace.org



Bright sun, blue skies and mild temperatures provided a perfect backdrop for the **2009 Muddy River Cleanup**. Partnering with the **Charles River Watershed Association** for the 10th Annual Earth Day Charles River Cleanup, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy conducted a cleanup along the banks of the Muddy River, a tributary of the Charles River that wends its way through the Back Bay Fens and Brookline. Over **300 volunteers** participated in the cleanup, including **Emerald Necklace volunteers, area residents**, and groups from:

Blue Cross Blue Shield
Boston Arts Academy
BNY Mellon
Boston University
Colleges of the Fenway
Dartmouth Club
MIT
Northeastern University
Winsor Young Alumni

Special thanks go to **Jason Knerr, Emerald Necklace Conservancy's project assistant intern**, who planned and organized this mega-event. Jason, recalling highlights of the day, noted the enthusiasm, camaraderie and hard work of the volunteers which helped make the cleanup activities fun. Participants received monogrammed t-shirts commemorating the event. Some of the more interesting items pulled from the river banks included a television set and bicycle. Jason estimated that **several hundred pounds of trash was collected** - proving a successful cleanup and a great way to celebrate Earth Day and kick off the spring season. **Thanks to all who helped make the park a cleaner, healthier and safer place.**

See photos from the event [here](#).

Got photos?

Wednesday, May 13

11:30 am -

The 6th Annual Justine Mee Liff Fund Party in the Park

Kelleher Rose Garden, Back Bay Fens
Join us for the Justine Mee Liff Fund Party in the Park this year at the Kelleher Rose Garden. Michael and Kitty Dukakis will be presented with the **Liff Spirit Award**. For more info: [Party in the Park](#).

Saturday, May 16th

7:00 am

Fenway Civic Association's Annual Bird Walk, "Birds of the Back Bay Fens."

Meet in the Back Bay Fens at the Japanese Bell (near Kelleher Rose Garden.) Led by Dr. Gwilym Jones, Professor of Biology, Northeastern University. For more info, contact: FenwayCivic@aol.com

June

Saturday, June 6

10am-1pm

First Saturday Woodlands Volunteers

Olmsted Park

Join the restoration effort for the woodlands of Olmsted Park. Volunteers will water newly planted trees and shrubs, continue with soil rejuvenation and pulling garlic mustard.

Sign up:

projectassistant@emeraldnecklace.org

Wednesday, June 17 and

Wednesday, June 24

10am - 2pm

The Emerald Necklace: The History, Gardens and Changing Landscape of the Back Bay Fens

Elderhostel program in partnership with Emerald Necklace Conservancy (see featured article top left) For more info and sign up click [here](#).

Send us your parks pics!



Photo credit: Kate England, Signs of spring in the Back Bay Fens Apr 2009

Share your photos of the Emerald Necklace parks with us and we may publish them in an upcoming edition of our e-newsletter.

Send in jpg format
to: info@emeraldnecklace.org



Photo credit: Kate England, Jamaica Pond Apr 2009

Project Update: Woodlands Restoration

Planting of trees and shrubs begins at Olmsted Park.

Last Saturday, 13 volunteers participated in the first 2009 **woodlands planting day in Olmsted Park**, as part of our woodlands restoration project. The day was cool and overcast, just right for planting, as volunteers put in more than **100** bare-root or plugs of **chokeberry, pagoda dogwood, gray dogwood, redbuds and viburnums**. Planting will continue over the next couple of weeks.

On **June 6**, the next "First Saturday of the Month" volunteer day, we'll water the plants (if needed), resume soil



rejuvenation, and continue pulling garlic mustard (if it hasn't gone to seed).

Photo credit: Tae-kyeong

To volunteer:
projectassistant@emeraldnecklace.org
To learn more about the **Woodlands Restoration Project**, [click here](#).

www.emeraldnecklace.org

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Waking up the Kelleher Rose Garden *Volunteers ready the garden for seasonal opening.*



The Kelleher Rose Garden in the Back Bay Fens got its **annual spring awakening** on Saturday, May 2, as 16 volunteers, led by Conservancy Project Manager Catherine Pedemonti and **Kit Ganshaw, rosarian** and horticultural technologist at the Arnold Arboretum, **removed mulch** from rose beds and **pruned** winter damage and dead wood. **Shaw's Supermarkets in Revere** provided refreshments and work gloves, as well as an enthusiastic cadre of volunteers. Joining in were several **rose garden regulars** from the **'Tuesdays with Roses'** volunteer program (see related article below).

Thank you to Shaw's and all who helped prepare the garden for the growing season.

Photo above: Kit demonstrating proper pruning techniques to volunteers.



Photo above: Volunteers at the Kelleher Rose Garden

'Tuesdays with Roses' Volunteers Kicks off

May 12th *Weekly volunteer program begins next Tuesday.*

Right on the heels of the garden's spring awakening, the **popular volunteer program**, 'Tuesdays with Roses' will begin next Tuesday evening, May 12th at 5:30 PM. at the Kelleher Rose Garden. This program, which runs **every**

Tuesday from 5:30 -7:30 PM throughout the spring and summer, brings together volunteers - rose enthusiasts, green thumbers and novice gardeners alike - to **help tend the 1,500+ roses**. Training, gloves and tools are provided and **new volunteers are always welcome**.

Join us for a Tuesday or two (or as many as you like!) to prune and deadhead the roses and weed rose beds, surrounded by the beauty, fragrance and serene atmosphere of this special place. To sign up, send email to cpedemonti@emeraldnecklace.org

See photos of **'Tuesdays with Roses'** volunteers [here](#)

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