

Emerald Necklace News

April 2009

In this issue...

[The Birthday Quiz](#)

[Our New Truck!](#)

[New Running Guides](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Project Update: Hawthorn Hill](#)

[An Unusual Spring Break](#)

Signs of Spring....

at the Arnold Arboretum



Advocacy Update

Great news! The amendment to the Transportation Bill that keeps the historic bridges and parkways under the authority of the Department of Conservation and Recreation was passed by the House late Monday evening.

Thank you! Your calls to the legislature **clearly made a difference** and our collective voice was heard. We are grateful to all who responded to our advocacy alerts and made those calls.

We would also like to thank **several key legislators** who demonstrated their commitment to parklands by supporting the amendment: **Representatives Paul Donato, Jeffrey Sanchez, Mike Rush, Frank Smizik, Marty Walz, Alice Wolf, Byron Rushing, and Liz Malia**, among others.

It's not over yet! Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to monitor the bill as it goes to the Conference Committee.

[Read the full text](#) of our testimony submitted 3.12.09.

[Read the op-ed article](#) written by Julie Crockford and Sylvia Salas and published in the March 25th edition of the Boston Globe.

Quick Links

[Donate](#)

[Party in the Park](#)

[Volunteer](#)

[Our Website](#)

[The Birthday Quiz](#)

Upcoming Events

April

Saturday, April 11

10 am - noon

Annual Franklin Park Spring Clean-Up

Meet at Valley Gates. Coffee and donuts

In honor of **Frederick Law Olmsted's birthday on April 26**, we've put together a little quiz. So go ahead -sharpen your pencil and **test your Olmsted IQ!**



1- If Olmsted were alive today, how old would he be on his upcoming birthday?

A) 100 B) 187 C) 214 D) 156

2- Olmsted held various jobs before becoming a landscape architect. Which one of these positions was *not* part of his employment history?

- A) Dry goods clerk
- B) Farmer
- C) Journalist
- D) Jeweler

3- What we now call the Emerald Necklace, Olmsted sometimes referred to as:

- A) The Green Place
- B) Shiny Sequins
- C) The Jewelled Girdle
- D) Green Lea

4- Olmsted called his Brookline home and studio:

- A) Fairview
- B) Fairsted
- C) Greenward
- D) Green Fair

5- Olmsted is often referred to as, "The Father of _____"

- A) Parks and Gardens
- B) Parks Design
- C) Landscape Architecture
- D) Landscape Design

[Check your answers here.](#)

Our New Truck! Generous grant allows purchase of new truck.

to get you started! Sponsored by the Franklin Park Coalition. For more info call FPC at 617-442-4141.

Saturday, April 18

10 am - 1 pm.

Garlic Mustard Volunteer Fest at Olmsted Park. Join us for a day of removing the invasive plant garlic mustard. [Sign up.](#)

Saturday, April 18

9 am - 3 pm

Earth Day Celebration at Jamaica Pond. Lots of fun activities for the whole family. Sponsored by the Friends of Jamaica Pond. For more info: www.FriendsofJamaicaPond.org

Saturday, April 25

9 am - 1 pm.

Muddy River Cleanup. This is big! Don't miss this mega-volunteer event. For more information and sign up, contact: info@emeraldnecklace.org

Saturday, April 25

10 am - 1 pm.

Kelleher Rose Garden Volunteer Event, Back Bay Fens. Spend a day with other rose enthusiasts planting, pruning, and cleaning up the Kelleher Rose Garden for the seasonal opening. To sign up, contact: cpedemonti@emeraldnecklace.org

Sunday, April 26

11 am - 3 pm.

Come celebrate Earth Day at the Franklin Park Zoo! Crafts, activities, animal encounters, environmental exhibitors and more. Zoo New England in partnership with Boston Green Fest 2009. For more info: www.zoonewengland.org

Sunday, April 26



Thanks to a generous donation from **The Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation**, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy is pleased to announce the purchase of a new truck. The truck has been **designed specifically for us by Super Lawn Trucks** to transport the tools and supplies we need for park cleanups, invasives removal, plantings and other volunteer and Green Team activities.

Sporting our signature **Emerald Necklace Conservancy logo**, the truck will have its debut in the parks at the **Muddy River Clean-up on April 25th**.

Look what your contribution \$ can buy...

- \$10 = 2 hand saws,
- \$25 = 12 trowels,
- \$35 = 10 pair of gloves
- \$50 = 25 asters,
- \$200 = weekly salary for a hard-working Green Team teen!



Your support is important to us. Please [donate](#) today! We depend on individual donations for over 50% of our operating costs. Thank you.

New Running Guides

Local author and runner has two new books featuring Emerald Necklace routes

By *Alessandra Magno*

Whenever I have the urge to go out for a casual run, I never know which running path is best to take. With the Boston Marathon fast approaching, I am feeling more inclined to throw on my running sneakers and hit the streets, but where to go? Thanks to **Mark Lowenstein**, an outdoor enthusiast and long-time, non-competitive, 5 mile-a-day runner, I have a better sense of where to run.

Lowenstein has written two running guide books, complete with maps, for the Brookline and Boston areas - **Great**

1 pm - 5 pm.

F.L. Olmsted Birthday Celebration at Olmsted Park. Join the Friends of Leverett Pond and the Brookline Greenspace Alliance at Allerton Overlook for an afternoon of music and stewardship. Bring a picnic lunch! For more info: call 617-566-7334.

May

Saturday, May 2

31st Annual Wake up the Earth Festival, a multicultural festival enjoyed by thousands of community members. For more info: www.spontaneouscelebrations.org

Sunday, May 10

Dawn to Dusk

Lilac Sunday at the Arnold Arboretum with special activities from 10am - 4pm. For more info [click here](#)

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. For more info: [Party in the Park.](#)

New! Purchase Party in the Park tickets online here.

Project Update: Hawthorn Hill Schematic planting plan approved

The Boston Landmarks Commission has approved our planting strategies for the

Runs in Brookline and Vicinity, available now, and, *Great Runs in Boston*, due later this month. Both books feature fabulous Emerald Necklace runs. [Read more...](#)



www.emeraldnecklace.org

891 Centre Street | Jamaica Plain, MA | 02130
617-522-2700

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

3-acre demonstration project in Olmsted Park. According to **Don Eunson**, our senior project manager, volunteers may **begin the planting as early as the first Saturday in May** if the plant order arrives as scheduled. The Hawthorn Hill project is part of a **comprehensive plan to restore the woodlands** in Olmsted Park.

[Read more about the woodlands.](#)

Editor's note: We asked Alessandra Magno, our communications intern, to share her unusual spring break experience with our readers. Here's her story.

Backbreaking Spring Break

Rebuilding trails in Appalachia

By Alessandra Magno

Typically, **spring break** for college students involves sandy beaches and partying until dawn. Sounds about right, yes? Well, I opted for a completely different kind of spring break experience. Last month, I was part of the seven-member team from **Students for Environmental Action (SEA) at Emmanuel College** that set out for the Appalachian Trail.

After contacting the **American Hiking Society**, Rose Blondin, the SEA president and I organized a trip to Douthat State Park in western Virginia **to help rebuild trails and clear pathways**. Andrea Ketchmark, Volunteer Programs Manager for the American Hiking Society guided us throughout the entire process of putting together this volunteer project. After a thirteen hour drive, we reached our destination. At this point, I had no idea what to expect...[read more of Alessandra's story.](#)

