

Emerald Necklace News

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Letter From The President

Dear Friends,

Trees and parks. Parks and trees. They give a peaceful definition to our urban place. The Conservancy has undertaken a project with DCR and several friends' groups to care for the majestic red oak trees that border the parkways, and this fall we will plant 40 new trees to begin the restoration of the tree canopy where trees have failed. Our parks, with their grand trees and green space, are a necessity of life for urban dwellers — I know it from personal experience and from research data. Olmsted had it exactly right in the 19th century and it's just as true in the 21st century. The hard-working people of his day needed a respite from the factories where they toiled six days a week and we need a respite from today's fast-paced world driven by technology and the busyness of our daily lives.

The Emerald Necklace parks thread through the City like a string of green gems connecting neighbors from the Back Bay Fens with its Victory Gardens just a hop, skip and a jump from the Museum of Fine Arts, Fenway Park and many of our major universities and hospitals throughout Mission Hill and Brookline, to Jamaica Pond, the Arboretum and Franklin Park in Dorchester. We all know that these parks are the lungs of the city, giving us space to breathe and trees to clean our air, but I propose that these parks are also the *heart of the city*, beating with the sounds of a vibrant community, open and welcoming to all - the lifeblood of our city.

I invite you to come explore the parks - indeed come for a walk with me! I'd love to show you our Emerald Necklace.

In gratitude for your support,



Julie Crockford



Photo by Dan Tobeyne



You Are Invited! Emerald Necklace Conservancy Annual Meeting

Thursday, November 15, 2012

Northeastern University Curry Student Center Ballroom

346 Huntington Ave | Boston, MA 02115

5:30pm Reception | 6:30pm Program

Join the Emerald Necklace Conservancy as we thank our volunteers, members, and friends, and look forward to a resilient future for our parks.

Featuring Keynote Speaker Coleen O'Connell "Urban Parks: Ensuring a Resilient Future"

Coleen O'Connell, an educator for 26 years, is an instructor at Lesley University in Environmental Studies, focused on Ecological Teaching and Learning.

She was the former Education Director of the Audubon Expedition Institute and Executive Director for the Geocommons College Program.

Kelleher Rose Garden Historic Photos Needed!

Do you have fond memories of the Kelleher Rose Garden and photos from years past?

We're currently seeking images of the Garden – photos, postcards or drawings – from its formative years. Images of the fountain dating back to the 40s, 50s and 60s are of particular interest to us. As the Conservancy works to restore the fountain, these images will add to our knowledge of the evolution of this garden treasure. Please contact Mary Hickie at 617-522-2700 or mhickie@emeraldnecklace.org if you have any images you would like to share with us. We'll be happy to retrieve them from you.

Thank you!

10th Annual Party in the Park

Save the Date:

Wednesday, May 15, 2013

11am - Reception | 12:30pm - Luncheon
Kelleher Rose Garden, Back Bay Fens

Join us for the 10th anniversary of the *Party in the Park* to benefit the Justine Mee Liff Fund for special projects in the Emerald Necklace. The Liff Fund has funded numerous projects, including the current restoration of the Kelleher Rose Garden Fountain and Statuary. The 10th Anniversary will be a wonderful celebration of the Emerald Necklace! For more information please contact Susan Knight at 617-522-2700 or sknight@emeraldnecklace.org.

Donate online at
www.emeraldnecklace.org
or send your checks to the
Emerald Necklace
Conservancy in the
remittance envelope.
Thank You!



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR 2012 VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our work in the parks, from Tuesday with Roses and Woodlands Saturdays to corporate and college days, we depend on our friends to join us. In launching a new initiative, Circle The City (CTC), we could not have done it without them. From our partner organizations that offered activities and resources to the dedicated people who worked long days with big smiles, our 2012 CTC events were blessed with over 175 volunteers helping with logistics, safety, activity, coordination, social media, evaluation and hospitality. Special thanks to our funders, the Barr Foundation and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, and our media partners, Boston.com, Boston Globe, Bay State Banner, and Yelp.

Join us on November 10 for our Olmsted Park Woodlands Restoration Volunteer Event! RSVP to projectassistant@emeraldnecklace.org.



Circle The City

"Circle The City is a new way to explore the city and our parks car-free." - Julie C.

"Circle The City brings residents together, connecting across neighborhoods!" - Karen S.



Summer Sundays

*"...lovely venue outside" "...perfect balance between night and day"
"...loved how they talked about the composers" "...this year's mix was excellent"
"...nothing's better than live music" "...good community-building event" "...great music and venue"*

The Green Team

"My crew, both the members and the leaders, have definitely worked together to build one cohesive and cooperative team." - Jackson C.

"I liked my experience so much that I returned as an assistant crew leader." - Phung V.



Tuesday with Roses

"I appreciated how friendly and happy everyone working in the rose garden seemed to be. It's a treat after a long work day to go to such a peaceful place."

"I look at the garden and feel pleased that I was a part of how it looks."



Circle The City 2012 — A Huge Success!!

In Summer 2012, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy served as lead partner in the launch of Circle The City (CTC) for three events that drew an estimated 6500 participants of all ages for the opportunity to walk, bike, roll, dance, and play on safe, car-free streets and in our parks. CTC, which is Boston's first Open Streets initiative, encourages family fun, builds community, promotes safe, physical activity for all ages, and adds to the momentum building around the country for improving our streets for pedestrian, bike, and community access. Our car-free corridor in Jamaica Plain on July 15th connected three of our signature parks - Franklin Park, the Southwest Corridor, and Jamaica Pond. On August 5th, the Open Streets downtown connected the Rose Kennedy Greenway to City Hall.

2013 brings more possibilities for CTC to expand Boston's Open Streets initiative to include longer car-free routes, added activities and more collaboration with organizations and agencies across Boston. Stay tuned for more information on how to get involved and where to look for the next Open Streets that connects Bostonians to our parks!

CTC is a 2012 Urban Signature Project of the White House's America's Great Outdoors Initiative and a joint venture of BCFE, the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, LivableStreets Alliance, Franklin Park Coalition, and the City of Boston.

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