

~ DEHC's NEW MISSION:
We are a coalition of community-based organizations who are committed to addressing environmental health problems in Dorchester. Our mission is to tackle urban environmental health concerns and promote environmental justice, leading to measurable improvements and a healthy environment for people who live and work in Dorchester.



NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, No. 3

Please Note: Publication will resume in 6 months.

May-June 2006

Arbor Day 2006 Activities

On April 28 and 29, 2006 Boston's Urban Forest Coalition (BUFC) planted nearly 100 trees as part of the 2006 National and Massachusetts Arbor Day Celebrations. The two-day Boston event was part of a national program funded by the National Arbor Day Foundation and The Home Depot Foundation.

Sixty trees were planted in Dorchester on Friday, April 28 at the Holland Elementary School complex on Geneva Avenue. (See photo page 2.) On April 29 in Mission Hill, over 75 tree were planted or mulched in conjunction with the 4th annual *Boston Shines* cleanup.

"The plantings provided an excellent opportunity to educate local youth and the public about the value of our city's trees and the importance of proper care and maintenance," said Rita Renée Toll-DuBois of UMass Extension, and Arbor Day Plantings Project Chair for BUFC. "We had our volunteers involved in the whole process, selecting, planting, watering and upkeep."

During the Friday, April 28 event, staff and students of YouthBuild Boston and Eagle Eye Institute



assisted BUFC members and volunteers from local Home Depot stores in all phases of the tree plantings, including digging holes, back-filling, mulching and watering.

During a break in the work, a special press conference featured James Hunt III, City of Boston's Chief of Environmental & Energy Services and Boston Parks Commissioner Antonia Pollak, who awarded certificates of appreciation to each organization and volunteer group involved with the project.

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New & Noteworthy—May & June Events and Activities

The Neponset River Greenway Council meets regularly the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. The May 3 meeting location is at the Dept of Conservation & Recreation headquarters, 7 Brush Hill Road (just outside Mattapan Square) and the June 7 meeting will be held at the Hyde Park Police Station, 1249 Hyde Park Ave. Call Beth Phelps at 617-542-7696 x12, or visit www.bostonnatural.org for more info on this and other activities.

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Jammin' for Justice, May 13, 6 - 10 pm Celebration & Fundraiser for ACE at the historic and newly restored Roxbury Center for Arts at Hibernian Hall. Please visit www.ace-ej.org for information.

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Healthy Trees, Healthy Neighborhoods free volunteer workshop, Saturday May 13, 9—2 pm, at Dorchester House, 1353 Dorchester Avenue

For information about the Greater Boston Urban Forest Inventory, please contact Elizabeth Walsh, GBUFFI Coordinator, Urban Ecology Institute, 355 Higgins Hall, 140 Commonwealth Ave, Chestnut Hill, 02467, by email walshio@bc.edu; phone 617-552-1563; or web www.urbaneco.org.

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Free Workshop: Identifying Natural Communities

The Putnam Conservation Institute is pleased to host this workshop, presented

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- Members
- Alternatives for Community & Environment
 - Annapolis Neighborhood Association
 - Ashmont-Adams Neighborhood Assoc.
 - Ashmont Hill Association
 - Boston Public Health Commission
 - Boston Urban Asthma Coalition
 - Boston Urban Forest Coalition
 - Bowdoin Street Health Center
 - Breath of Life: Dorchester (BOLD) Teens
 - Cape Verdean Community UNIDO
 - Cedar Grove Civic Association
 - Civic Health Institute, CSHC
 - Clam Point Neighborhood Association
 - Clean Water Action
 - Codman Square Health Center
 - Codman Sq. Neighborhood Dev. Corp.
 - Codman Square Neighborhood Council
 - Columbia Savin Hill Civic Association
 - Columbia Washington St. Neighbor. Assoc.
 - Conservation Law Foundation
 - Dorchester House Multi-Service Center
 - DotWell
 - Environmental Careers Organization
 - Fields Corner Civic Association
 - Fields Corner Main Street
 - Four Corners Main Street
 - Friends of Ronan Park
 - Greater Bowdoin/Geneva Neighbor. Assoc.
 - Greater Four Corners Action Coalition
 - Greenwood Family Life Center, Inc.
 - Hub on Wheels
 - John Snow, Inc. (JSI)
 - Jones Hill Association
 - Lead Action Collaborative
 - Mattapan Community Development Corp.
 - Mattapan Community Health Center
 - MassCOSH
 - John W. McCormack Civic Association
 - Melville Park Association
 - New Ecology Inc.
 - Park Partners of Wainwright Park
 - Pope's Hill Neighborhood Association
 - St. Marks Area Civic Association
 - St. Marks Area Main Street
 - SCI Dorchester
 - Technology Goes Home/TGH Alumni, Inc.
 - Trust for Public Land
 - The Urban Ecology Institute
 - Viet-American Initiative for Development

DORCHESTER ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COALITION

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This newsletter is published six times annually: Jan-Feb, Mar-Apr, May-June, Jul-Aug, Sep-Oct, Nov-Dec. Delivery is via email, via the web at www.codman.org and/or dorchesterhouse.org, or hardcopy at Dorchester/Mattapan Boston Public Library branches. Brief articles or event notices faxed or emailed by the 15th of the month preceding the target issue are included as space permits. PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE A 6-MONTH HIATUS IN PUBLICATION OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

New & Noteworthy (continued from page 1)

by **Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences** and **Massachusetts Environmental Trust**

WHEN: Weds June 7, 2006, 1 to 4:30 pm

WHERE: Doyle Conservation Center, Leominster, MA

COST: Free!

TO REGISTER: Pre-registration is REQUIRED—contact Annie DeRose (aderose@ttor.org; 978-840-4446 x1900), first-come, first-served.

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Neponset River Watershed Association: Annual Meeting, Tuesday, June 13, 7 pm, at the Blue Hills Trailside Museum, Milton. You are invited to join NepRWA for our celebration and a presentation on "Smart Growth, Cities, Climate Change & the Neponset River Watershed" by Douglas Foy, former Secretary of the Massachusetts Office for Commonwealth Development and former President of the Conservation Law Foundation.



Arbor Day (contd)

Formed in March, 2005, BUFC includes the USDA Forest Service; Boston Parks & Recreation Dept; Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation; Mass GIS; DotWell; UMass Extension; Franklin Park Coalition; City of Boston Dept of Neighborhood Development; Urban Ecology Institute; Boston Natural Areas Network; and Urban Natural Resources Institute.

Among BUFC's other ongoing projects is an inventory of all public street trees in Boston. Jamaica Plan, East Boston, Roslindale and the South End have been inventoried, the rest of Boston's 17 neighborhoods are going to be completed this summer (see page 1 notice.)

For more info on BUFC, or to volunteer, please call Sherri Brokopp at 617-552-0672, or email her at brokopp@bc.edu or visit www.bostonforest.org.

BOLD Teens Program News

The BOLD Teens are continuing their working relationship with the Teens Lead At Work/MassCOSH group. The BOLD Teens of Fields Corner have greatly expanded their understanding and knowledge of work place safety, and held an informational Health and Safety Day Thursday, April 20th at Dorchester House.

The two groups together also have conducted about 50 interviews to try to determine the concerns of local workers. For more call BOLD, 617-822-8189.

Arbor Day Trees Planted at the Holland School April 28



Arbor Day 2006 Dorchester volunteers were instructed by arboriculture professionals such as Boston Parks Department arborist Leif Fixen and members of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Boston's Urban Forest Coalition, and the Urban Ecology Institute.



DotWell is our new name for the Health Services Partnership, established by Dorchester House Multi-Service Center and Codman Square Health Center. DotWell works to provide integrated clinical and community services to address health disparities, build social capital, and meet the complex needs of the dynamic Dorchester community.