

## THE ESPLANADE ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER NEWS

### From the Volunteer Coordinator

It seems like spring is right around the corner, and much of my focus lately has been on our volunteer projects in April and May - especially the **8th Annual Earth Day Charles River CleanUp on Saturday, April 21st**. Over 1,600 people help clean the sixty-five miles of the Charles riverbank for this event, and The Esplanade Association organizes approximately 400 of these volunteers. To participate in this special event, or if you are interested in helping me coordinate the various volunteer groups that will be cleaning up the Esplanade that morning, please call or email me. It's a great way to celebrate Earth Day!

### M.V.P. of the Month-Boston Cares TeamWorks & Single Volunteers Boston

Boston Cares TeamWorks and Single Volunteers Boston could not be stopped on two of the coldest mornings we have had this winter. As the ground was frozen in thick ice and the wind chill was easily below zero, both groups braved the elements to faithfully prune many of the most needy trees in the Esplanade's Upper Park. For a majority of these hardy volunteers, it was their first tree pruning experience, and even though they wondered what they were doing along the Charles River in the dead of winter, they quickly learned the techniques and walked away from their work proud of their accomplishments and really seeing a difference in how much better the trees looked.

For their dedication and contribution to the park, even in the coldest weather, [Boston Cares TeamWorks](#) and [Single Volunteers Boston \(SVB\)](#) are our **Motivated Volunteers for the Park** for February.



### Upcoming Events

#### [Saturday-March 10th, 10am-1pm, Tree Pruning](#)

Help care for the Esplanade's hardworking trees, and learn basic pruning techniques and strategies.

#### [Saturday-April 21st, 9am-12pm, 8th Annual Earth Day Charles River CleanUp](#)

Join the thousands helping clean up the Charles River. Go to: [www.charlesriver.org/cleanup.html](http://www.charlesriver.org/cleanup.html) for more info and to register or call Jen Roy at 617-227-0365.



### Ongoing Opportunities

[Group Volunteering](#)  
[Administrative Help](#)

### Spotlight: *The Esplanade Association Wants to Hear From Park Users!*



The Esplanade Association will be looking to park users and the larger community to learn more about the Esplanade and how it is used. The purpose of this effort is to deepen our understanding of current park use, public perception, and expressed needs, in order to inform planning and contribute to the development of a park restoration and management plan. Critical information needs to be gathered about the demographics of park users, the relative intensity of use of various park areas, seasonal use patterns, use conflicts, users that are not being served, and opportunities to revise programming to better serve the current population. Information will be gathered throughout the spring and summer via user counts and on-site interviews conducted by staff and volunteers.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** We need volunteers to count and observe people coming into the park at a variety of entrance points for 2-3 hour shifts on specific weekdays and weekends this spring. If you, or a group you are involved with, are interested in volunteering to help us with this important count study on the Esplanade, please email or call Jen Roy at 617-227-0365.