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## Green Team Corner



GT at Blue Hills in February

Over the past few months we have been very excited about our new partnership with Mass Audubon. Through this partnership we have met naturalists and scientists who have come to Lawrence and really opened our eyes to the great habitat we have right here in our city. Though we don't often consider urban centers as places for great habitats for wildlife, we have learned first-hand that this isn't true and in fact, with Lawrence having three rivers running through it, these water bodies

# Groundwork Lawrence Spring 2010 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

Spring is here! The weather is warming up, trees are blooming, farmers are starting their crops and we are busier than ever. You've received a few emails from us regarding the opportunity for Lawrence to win a free fruit orchard from Edy's Fruit Bars and The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation. We need your support and cyber-activity! Please vote [online](#) daily and help bring a fruit orchard to the city.

Groundwork Lawrence's [Community-Supported Agriculture Program](#) (CSA) is presently accepting registrations for 2010 membership! This fourth season in partnership with Farmer Dave's of Dracut brings you weekly shares of farm fresh vegetables and promises to be delicious! Farmer Dave has added a "choice-option" and the fruit share is now twice as big. Click on the link above for more information and to register and to learn about GWL's [Share-A-Share](#) program, which subsidizes CSA shares for those in financial hardship - please consider helping us extend the harvest to those in need.

This gardening season starts soon! We have room in some of our [community gardens](#) especially as Manchester Street Park opened last summer and Cronin is currently undergoing renovation that includes new gardens.

In other food and summer planning news, we are currently looking for new vendors for the [Farmers Market](#), for our Wednesday market and a new Saturday market! If you know a vendor or are one that is interested, please contact [Janel](#).

There's more updates below in the newsletter so we hope you enjoy keeping up with us. As you read on about upcoming GWL activities, please consider making an online [donation](#) to support our work of "**changing**

provide rich wildlife habitat.

We have also been working on our "Green It Up!" Campaign and as part of this effort we are organizing an Earth Day event, in partnership with Comcast Cares Day. We hope to Green Lawrence by decreasing the trash and litter that lines our city streets, increasing the amount of households that recycle in the city, educating other youth in this city about the importance of environmental stewardship, as well as engaging other youth in service and informing residents about the benefits of reducing, reusing, and recycling. Please join us on Saturday, April 24 in celebrating Earth Day. We hope to see you there!

Learn more about [Green Team](#).



## Community Garden Beds Available

With the recently completed Manchester Street Park and the soon to be complete Cronin Park Garden, the city has doubled the number of garden plots and we now **have community garden space available** for the first time in a long time!

If you are interested in your own space to garden at Manchester Street Park or Cronin Park contact [Janel](#).

## Support GWL

**places, changes lives."** Your support enables us to create the building blocks of a healthy community while empowering Lawrence residents to improve their quality of life. And of course, don't forget to join us this Saturday for our annual [Earth Day Cleanup](#) (more details below) and this Saturday's fundraiser by [Los Sugar Kings](#)!

Best wishes, Heather



Earth Day 2009

## Earth Day Cleanup

**This Saturday**, join Groundwork Lawrence's [Green Team](#), the City of Lawrence, Comcast, Lawrence General Hospital, Whole Foods (Andover), Allied Waste, Covanta Energy, and Northern Essex Community College in a celebration of Earth Day and [Comcast Cares National Day of Service](#).

The event will celebrate the 40th anniversary of Earth Day by engaging hundreds of volunteers in **tree planting, transforming vacant blighted lots, improving community garden sites and cleaning up litter** from our city streets and parks. A light breakfast, lunch and t-shirts will be provided to all volunteers.

Registration from 8-9am at the North Common(across from City Hall at 200 Common Street.)

Work from 9-12

Lunch from 12-1pm

Please let us know if you can attend. For more information contact [Rose](#) at GWL 978.974.0770.



Los Sugar Kings at Glow

## Los Sugar Kings support



Each year Groundwork Lawrence helps Lawrence residents, businesses and organizations to "change places and change lives" with new and improved parks, gardening, wellness and youth programs, clean-ups, tree plantings and family festivals. Any amount you [donate](#) helps us continue these much needed programs and projects.

## Join Our Mailing List

Want another way to keep up with everything GWL is doing?

[Subscribe to our RSS feed](#)

or

[Become a fan of GWL on Facebook!](#)

or

[Check out our Blog.](#)



# GWL!

**This Saturday April 24**, after the Earth Day Cleanup, come out to the Havana Night Benefit for GWL. Los Sugar Kings will be performing all night long and recording a LIVE VIDEO in a really cool performance space at the **Real School in Burlington**. Doors open at 7:30PM, Tickets are \$15.

Space is limited so buy [your tickets](#) now!

The Real School of Music is located at 56 Middlesex Turnpike - Burlington, MA 01803, (781) 328-0530

## Vote for a GWL Orchard!



We need your help to bring a fruit orchard to Lawrence! We need you to **vote online every day** and then the five applicants that have the most votes June 1 will be selected to receive a fruit orchard! While this contest

has monthly winners through August, we are hoping to win in May.

Please visit [CommunitiesTakeRoot.com](#) today and vote (you'll have to use the map or index to find our entry-we're the only one in Massachusetts), and click it every day from now through May!

## Provide Food for All with the Share-a-Share Program



Established in 2008, our Share-a-Share Program raises funds through tax-deductible donations to subsidize the cost of a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) share for those who cannot afford farm-fresh produce.

Last year, thanks to the generosity of many CSA members and friends of GWL, we raised \$3,000; funding which was used in the community to buy food for several Lawrence families and countless individuals through the [Neighbors In Need](#) food pantries, who dispersed **over 5,700 lbs.** of the donated fresh produce to the needy.

Fresh, healthy produce is one of the simplest and most effective defenses against the diet-related diseases so prevalent amongst low-income Lawrencians and as such, this year, we'd like to raise **\$5,000**. Currently we've raised over \$1,000 in donations-please consider helping us get to our goal of \$5,000! Visit our [website](#) to make a donation or to read more on this program and how far your donation can go!

### **Support Share-a-Share by attending the movie *Fresh!***

Join us Wednesday night, May 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 at Chesters to see the movie [Fresh](#).

About the movie: "FRESH celebrates the farmers, thinkers and business people across America who are re-inventing our food system."

Suggested donation is \$10 and **all proceeds go to Share-a-Share** to subsidize fresh healthy food for low-income individuals and Neighbors in Need.



Kite Festival, A Family Fiesta 2009

## **2010 Calendar**

GWL's 2010 [Calendar of Events](#) is available online. We continually update the calendar as we add events and finalize details.

### **Save the Dates!**

**Earth Day** is this Saturday from 9-1 (info below);

**Arbor Day Celebration** - April 30.

**Kite Festival** - June 12

**Spicket River Cleanup** - Sept. 11

**Glow** - November 18

As we enjoy the spring and look forward to summer, join us as we enjoy and celebrate Lawrence's public spaces, fresh food, and urban habitat. While no one wants to think about winter now, we've changed the date of Glow significantly this year - so please mark your calendar for November 18!

### **Cronin Park Update**



Playground work in Feb.

Work began at [Cronin Park](#) in mid December.



The renovation includes a complete overhaul of the roughly 1 acre park in the dense Arlington Neighborhood. The park is also directly across the street from the Tarbox

Elementary School so the kids and teachers have had a front row seat on the demolition and then installation of new playground equipment. The park work includes new equipment, a lawn and garden beds for use by neighbors and for a school gardening programming. The ribbon cutting will be in June - we hope you can join us! See photos on our [Flickr](#) site.

**Sincerely,**

Heather McMann, Executive Director

[Groundwork Lawrence](#)

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