

The Green Dot

Newsletter

MIDSUMMER 2011

450 Washington Street, Dorchester MA 02124

Dear Friends of DEHC,

Greetings! DEHC has been busy this summer, making great progress with the food co-op, farmers' market and bike advocacy initiatives. The coalition is sporting a swanky new "Green Dorchester" logo, and much of the content on DEHC.org is now available in Vietnamese! Dorchester's abuzz with green happenings.

DEHC wants to help energize residents, groups, businesses and non-profits to take action to improve Dorchester's outdoor quality of life—if you are interested please contact us!

Rosanne Foley

Pilot Urban Agriculture Project RFP is out!

The City of Boston has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Pilot Urban Agriculture Project, which seeks to put several Dorchester properties to use as farm sites. The proposal, due Aug. 15, is open to individuals, businesses, and/or organizations operating either as for profit or not-for-profit enterprises. Initially, each property would be leased for \$120/year for five years. Read more about the project on DEHC.org.



Top-left: Fields Corner Children's Thrive Launch 7/9;
Top-right: Bikes Not Bombs GreenRoots Fest 6/26
Bottom: Food Project Visit 6/25

2011 Schedule of Farmers Markets

(Most run through mid-October)

TUE	THU	FRI	SAT
Dorchester House, 11:30am-1:30pm. 1353 Dorchester Ave. (UPDATE): Grove Hall, 469 Blue Hill Ave. Market Delayed	Codman Square, 1-6pm. Talbot Ave @ Washington Revision Farm Stand, 2:30-6:30pm. 1062 Blue Hill Ave. Bowdoin Geneva, 3-6:30pm. 230 Bowdoin St.	Revision Farm Stand, 2:30-6:30pm. 1062 Blue Hill Ave. Ashmont/Peabody Sq, 3-7pm. In front of Ashmont T station.	Revision Farm Stand. 10am-2pm. 1062 Blue Hill Ave. Fields Corner, 9am-12pm. Dot Ave. & Park St. Mattapan, 10am-2pm. 525 River St.

To learn more call 617-474-1478 or visit <http://www.dehc.org>.

Upcoming Events

- *7/27 DotBike Summer Mtg.
- *7/28 IBEW Wind Turbine Fest
- *7/28 Nightingale Garden Mtg.
- *7/30—Neponset Estuary Paddle; Geneva Cliffs Community Celebration
- *8/6—Community Garden Bike Tour
- *8/6—My Dot Tour Fields Corner (also 8/7, 8/13, 8/14)
- *8/6 Wainwright Park Fam. Fun
- *8/9—Playhouse in the Park: Latino Movie Night
- *8/14—Lower Mills Paddle
- *8/16—Playhouse in the Park: Children's Festival
- *8/25—Sunset Yoga
- *9/23-25—Dot Park Gala V



Check our online calendar regularly for more events:
www.dehc.org/dehc-calendar

Community Garden Bike Tour, August 6:

Join Dot Bike & DEHC for the next "free green workshop," a bike tour of local gardens. Dorchester is home to nearly 20 community gardens, which are some of the oldest gardens in Boston. We will visit a mix of recently renovated gardens and some old favorites. Participants must provide their own bicycle and helmets are required. A guardian must accompany children under 14. Registration is required. Meet at the Charles Street entrance of Fields Corner T Station, at 10 a.m. on Aug. 6.

Dorchester Environmental Health Coalition

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Check us out on the web!

 [facebook/DorchesterEnviro](https://www.facebook.com/DorchesterEnviro)

 @DotEnviro

 <http://dehc.org>
GREENDORCHESTER

DEHC's mission is to promote the social, economic, and health benefits of living green in Boston's oldest and largest neighborhood.

DEHC's partners include:

- Ashmont Farmers' Market
- Ashmont Adams Neighborhood
- Boston Natural Areas Network
- Boston Park Advocates
- Boston Tree Party
- Codman Square Health Center
- Dorchester Historical Society
- Dorchester House Multi-Service Center
- DotBike
- DotWell
- Fields Corner Main Street
- Four Corners Main Street
- Friends of Dorchester Park
- Friends of Geneva Cliffs
- Friends of Ronan Park
- St Marks Area Main Street
- Talbot Norfolk Triangle and other local civic groups.

Call to find out how you can get involved!

617-474-1478

ABOUT DEHC

The Dorchester Environmental Health Coalition (DEHC) empowers residents, grassroots groups, businesses, and institutions working for community-based environmental change in Dorchester.

DEHC helps make all Dorchester healthier by supporting community green space creation and local fresh food production, and by improving alternative transportation modes—public transit, bicycling, and walking. In 2011, DEHC's focus is on supporting locally-initiated projects and on nurturing new leaders. Our goal is to build a diverse, inclusive, dynamic movement to change environmental and economic injustice and inspire climate action.

You can contact DEHC at 617-474-1478 or email DorchesterEnviro@gmail.com.

Complete Streets Walk:

As part of the Boston Complete Streets Initiative, a group of interested residents explored the walking environment along a mile or so of Dorchester Avenue on a recent hot summer day. The walk investigated how the Dot Ave Improvement Project fits into the citywide effort to create streets that are multi-modal, green and smart.

Get Outdoors!

Did you know...

Dorchester's many parks and community gardens feature free events all summer! The Neponset Greenway Festival, Park-ARTs program, Playhouse in the Park concert series and outdoor movie screenings offer a great selection for all ages, and free youth sports keep out-of-school kids active!



Above: Mark Fenton, host of PBS's "America's Walking," speaks to the group in Peabody Square, Dorchester.

DEHC Projects & Initiatives

Food Co-op Initiative: Community members started meeting early in 2011 to discuss and plan a common vision for starting a community-owned food co-operative grocery in Dorchester – this initiative is headed by long-time Dorchester resident Jenny Silverman. Interest in the project has continued to grow! A June 30 "Food Co-op Ambassador Training" instructed local food access "evangelists" on food cooperatives and how to spread the word. Materials from this presentation are available at <http://dotcommcoop.wordpress.com/>. The site search continues – DEHC is working with the Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corporation & other groups to discuss possible locations throughout Dorchester. Email DotCommCoop@gmail.com to get involved!

MyDot Tour: The My Dot Tour project, a multi-media youth-participatory walking tour that explores the past history, present-day conditions, and future visions of Fields Corner, has finally reached fruition. This August, high school-aged guides will lead groups of 20 through the highlights of this historic neighborhood. Tours take place on August 6, 7, 13 and 14. Reception after each tour takes place at Pho Hoa Fields Corner (1356 Dorchester Avenue). Visit <http://mydottour.org> for more information or email mydottour@gmail.com to RSVP.

Boston is Growing Gardens (BIGG): The Nightingale Community Garden on Park Street, the fourth largest community garden space in the city, is abuzz with activity. Gardeners can be spotted caring for their lovely, lush plots every day. Superb community events, including free music performances and gardening workshops, make this a terrific public space – even if you don't have a garden plot! Look for educational and social activities programs at Nightingale and elsewhere in Dorchester's community gardens. Interested in helping expand local gardening? Get in touch, we'll connect you!

DotBike: Promoting better biking in Dorchester, leads bike rides and events, advocates for better biking infrastructure—see dotbike.org for more information.