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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Enjoy BNAN Harvest Festival & Mattapan Farmers' Market September 26th

Two autumn events in Mattapan

BOSTON, MA, September 10, 2009 – Collaboration between gardeners and farmers is resulting in a day filled with fresh produce, plant swapping, food and entertainment on Saturday, September 26th in Mattapan. The Harvest Festival & Perennial Divide, hosted by Boston Natural Areas Network, will take place at City Natives, 30 Edgewater Drive – and within walking distance will be the Mattapan Farmers' Market in the parking lot of Church of the Holy Spirit at 525 River Street. Both events will run from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. rain or shine. The event is co-sponsored by Mattapan Food & Fitness Coalition.

The Harvest Festival will have fresh baked goods, honey, and produce from local farms available for sale, as well as a children's craft project, live music, tours of BNAN's Learning Garden and bee apiary, and plant advice from Master Urban Gardener graduates. Gardeners can also participate in the Perennial Divide, a unique way to swap plants you no longer want for something new to plant in the garden. Gardeners bring plant divisions and empty containers from home and select something new provided by other gardeners. This Divide is always enormously successful and plants go fast. A wide variety of other plants, cultivated at City Natives, will be available for sale.

Gardeners are also invited to participate in the *The Incredible Crop Olympics* with exciting categories like the *Biggest Tomato*, *Heaviest Zucchini*, *Largest Sunflower* and *Most Voluminous Vegetable*.

Register vegetable entries by calling BNAN at 617-542-7696, or bring your vegetables for consideration to the event before 11:00 a.m. Prizes will be awarded.

The Mattapan Farmers' will have a wide variety of fresh, affordable, locally grown fruits, vegetables and flowers from Milton's Brookwood Community Farm and other area farms. The market runs every Saturday through October.

Boston Natural Areas Network is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing together local residents, partner organizations, public officials and foundations to preserve, expand and enhance urban open space, including community gardens, greenways and urban wilds. For more information about the organization, becoming a member or programs and events, visit www.bostonnatural.org or call 617-542-7696.

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Editors: See below link to .jpg photos of the Harvest Festival. Simply click and download.

<http://www.box.net/shared/static/zj0guo9sgc.jpg>

<http://www.box.net/shared/static/7lwz4dw8c8.jpg>

<http://www.box.net/shared/static/27k6d42dl6.JPG>