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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Learn to Identify and Control Orchard Pests on March 27th

Free Seed, Sow & Grow program hosted by Boston Natural Areas Network

BOSTON, MA, March 12, 2010 – Raising your own fruit is a rewarding and healthful activity. Urban orchards are becoming quite popular and growing fruit trees and fruiting shrubs is one way to ensure a bumper crop of delicious, seasonal fruits for you and your family.

Boston Natural Areas Network offers the free program **Pest Management Strategies** (session two in the four part series, the **Orchard Primer**) on Saturday, March 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The program will be held at BNAN's City Natives, 30 Edgewater Drive, Mattapan (reachable by public transportation).

The Orchard Primer is a four-program sub-series of BNAN's popular Seed, Sow and Grow horticultural series. The Orchard Primer covers the seasonal maintenance of fruit trees and fruiting shrubs. All sessions are held at City Natives and presented edible landscaper Ben Crouch. Session Two: **Pest Management Strategies** will teach participants how to identify and safely manage orchard and shrub fruit pests. Ben (Crouch) will offer organic solutions for season-long pest management with particular focus on pests active in Boston in early spring.

The *Seed, Sow & Grow* horticultural series is free and open to the public and presented February through October by BNAN staff, outside professionals, and graduates of BNAN's Master Urban Gardener program. For a schedule of *Seed, Sow & Grow* workshops, call BNAN at 617-542-7696 or visit www.bostonnatural.org.

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 further information about the organization, becoming a member or the calendar of events, visit www.bostonnatural.org, or call 617-542-7696.

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