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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Spring Festival and Perennial Divide Celebrates the New Gardening Season

*Boston Natural Areas Network offers FREE plants and garden advice.*

**BOSTON, MA**, May 5, 2011 –Boston Natural Areas Network invites all gardeners to the annual Spring Festival and Perennial Divide on May 21<sup>st</sup> at BNAN’s City Natives, 30 Edgewater Drive, Mattapan from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The festival is free for everyone and is held rain or shine.

The Festival’s highlight is the Perennial Divide where anyone who shares an interest in community or backyard gardening can come together to swap plants and gardening tips. Participants are requested to pre-divide their perennial plants into smaller pieces and to bring their own containers for plants to take home. You do not need to bring plants if you are a beginning gardener; there are plenty of free plant divisions to share. BNAN staff members along with skilled BNAN Master Urban Gardeners will be standing by to assist with any questions, concerns or comments you might have.

The Spring Festival also includes a Gardener’s Market of native plants and vegetable seedlings propagated at City Natives and local farms; and other goodies produced by gardeners to help support their community gardens. Proceeds from sales of native plants and annual seedlings will benefit BNAN’s City Natives. There is also a free workshop on beekeeping presented by Mike Graney from 12:00- 1:00 p.m. This event also offers the opportunity to take a self-guided tour of the Learning Garden and network with other gardeners.

“The Spring Festival and Perennial Divide is the place to get ready and excited about the new gardening season,” said Valerie Burns, BNAN President. “The Festival offers plants, information, bees and a great environment to network with fellow gardeners.”

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For more information about the Spring Festival and Perennial Divide, contact BNAN at 617-542-7696 or [www.bostonnatural.org](http://www.bostonnatural.org). City Natives is accessible by public transportation to Mattapan Square.

Remember only service dogs are allowed onto the property.

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 the calendar of events, visit [www.bostonnatural.org](http://www.bostonnatural.org) or call 617-542-7696.

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