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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fall Gardening Programs continue at Nightingale Garden in Dorchester

BOSTON, MA – August 29, 2011 – Nightingale Community Garden, located at 512 Park Street in Dorchester continues to be the center of garden activity this fall with concerts, workshops and garden festivals. The workshops will help neighborhood gardeners get the most out their vegetable gardens with helpful hints on fall garden planning, harvesting, and end of the year garden care. There will be a class on how to prepare herbs for the kitchen and in addition to the garden workshops there will be a Caribbean concert featuring Treavor Comma, a watercolor workshop, and a Fall Harvest Festival.

The programs will be led by BNAN garden educator, Erika Rumbley along with help from BNAN staff and Master Urban Gardener volunteers. The workshops are a response to the growing interest in community gardening.

The BIGG Fall Gardening Series is as follows:

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| Wednesday | September 7, | 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | Caribbean concert with Trevor Comma |
| Thursday, | September 8, | 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | Grow Greens all Fall |
| Saturday, | September 10, | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Herbs from your Garden |
| Saturday, | September 17, | 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Watercolors in the Garden |
| Registration is required for this program-- Call 617-542-7696 or email to info@bostonnatural.org to register. | | | |
| Thursday, | September 29, | 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | Putting your garden to Bed |
| <i>This workshop will be at Spencer Street Community Garden, 96 Spencer Street, Dorchester</i> | | | |
| Thursday, | October 6, | 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | Putting your garden to Bed |
| <i>This workshop will be at Leyland Street Community Garden, 6-18 Leyland Street, Dorchester</i> | | | |
| Saturday, | October 8, | 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Putting your garden to Bed |
| <i>This workshop will be at Nightingale Community Garden, 512 Park Street, Dorchester</i> | | | |

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On Saturday, October 15 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Nightingale Community Garden will celebrate its first annual Fall Harvest Festival. This is an opportunity for all Dorchester gardeners to share the bounty of their harvest. You are invited to bring food and your appetite and enjoy the potluck of fresh dishes inspired by a season of growing.

And don't forget that the DOT Grows Garden council meets the first Tuesday of every month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Codman Square Health Center, in conference room B. This newly formed council serves to support Dorchester community gardeners, residents, families and organizations in practicing and promoting community gardening, sharing resources and ideas and planning for a healthier Dorchester.

The Nightingale Garden Workshop Series is part of BNAN's Boston Is Growing Gardens (BIGG) project which aims to double the community garden food growing capacity in Dorchester and increase opportunities for access to healthy food and physical activity for Dorchester residents. Working with our partners, the City of Boston, Dorchester Environmental Health Coalition, gardeners, neighbors and local health organizations, BNAN is undertaking to create a two-fold increase in the number of plots (from 249 to 251) in the 17 Dorchester Community Gardens owned by BNAN.

Funding for Dorchester Community Gardens has been provided by the Boston Public Health Commission/Center for Disease Control, The Manton Foundation, The Boston Foundation, The Claneil Foundation, The Towards Sustainability Foundation and The Amelia Peabody Charitable Fund in addition to the City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development.

If you would like to learn more about BIGG or how to get involved in community gardening in your Dorchester neighborhood, please contact BNAN at info@bostonnatural.org or call BIGG Project Manager Grantley Payne at 617-542-7696 x21.

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 or call 617-542-7696.

