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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

12 Youth Spend Summer Enhancing East Boston's Parks Teens Make a Difference in the Community with Summer Job

BOSTON, MA – September 1, 2011 A crew of 12 teenagers from East Boston worked hard for 6 weeks this summer making landscape improvements to the East Boston Greenway and Belle Isle Marsh, learning about their environment and earning a paycheck all at the same time. These teens were part of Boston Natural Areas Network's Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), which employed a total of 45 teens working all over the city.

Thanks to the East Boston YCC Crew and their supervisor Chris Marchi, the East Boston Greenway has never looked better. The crew paid special attention to making the path open and inviting to visitors through landscape management. In addition, the crew also worked at MA DCR's Belle Isle Marsh where they completed some serious trail work near the Saratoga Street entrance and made posters and interactive skits to show visitors the importance of keeping the park clean.

The public is invited to visit the East Boston Greenway and Belle Isle Marsh to enjoy all the hard work the YCC teens have done. As one YCC teen put it, "I think we have worked very hard and I really think the job I am doing is going to change my community." The community thanks all the YCC teens so much for their efforts this summer!

The YCC program is made possible by Paul and Edith Babson Foundation, City of Boston Youth Fund, City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department, Copeland Family Foundation, East Boston Savings Bank, East Boston Greenway Council, Foundation M, Green Leaf Foundation, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation, George Macomber Family Charitable Fund, Neponset River Greenway Council, Harold Whitworth Pierce Charitable Trust, and Individual Donors.

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East Boston Crew Photo From Left: Rafaela Risso, Eddie Funes, Stephanie Romero, Trina Do, Gianna Celona, Victoria Fortes, Kimberly Romero, Jordan Ng, Dan Haro, Malcolm Brown, Jarrett Etheridge, Crew Supervisor Chris Marchi, Nancy Huang.

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.

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