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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Youth Spend Summer Enhancing Allendale Woods
11 Teens Make a Difference in the Community
with Summer Jobs**

BOSTON, MA – September 1, 2011 A crew of 11 teenagers from Jamaica Plain, Roslindale, West Roxbury, and Brighton worked hard for 6 weeks this summer fixing up the trails and improving the ecology in Allendale Woods in West Roxbury, 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.

This group of teens, called the Urban Wilds Crew, got to know Allendale Woods very well and removed thousands of invasive plants, maintained hundreds of feet of trails, and planted exactly 100 restorative native plants to the landscape.

The public is invited to visit Allendale Woods at VFW Parkway and Centre Streets 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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Urban Wilds Crew Photo From Left: Jasmin Sanchez, Kristen Cullen, Sirine Mansouri, Salvadora McCaffrey, Joel Diaz, Eli Hamel, Lucian Cascino, Evan Haschak, Sebastian Viasus, Liam Fitzgerald. Front Row: Marie Fleming.

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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