



**CONTACT:** Candice Cook  
Candice@bostonnatural.org

BNAN  
617-542-7696  
www.bostonnatural.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## *Annual Great Pumpkin Float Event Scheduled for October 22<sup>nd</sup>*

*Popular event hosted by MA Department of Conservation & Recreation and  
Boston Natural Areas Network*

**BOSTON, MA, October 14, 2011** – One of the most unique and popular Halloween-related events – the Great Pumpkin Float – will take place this year on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> at Pope John Paul II Park in Dorchester. This is the tenth year of a Dorchester tradition when hundreds of costumed children and their families, as well as enthusiastic individuals will participate in the parade of illuminated jack-o-lanterns down Davenport Creek to the Neponset River.

Beginning at 5:30 p.m., participants can **bring a 6 – 8 inch pumpkin that has been carved at home** to the Hallet Street entrance to the park to be mounted on a special individual float. Each jack-o-lantern will have a candle inserted and lit before being launched en mass in the water. **Floats and candles will be provided.** The result will be a beautiful water parade of spooky pumpkins. **The event is free and no registration is required.** . Pumpkins will be collected for composting and floats are recycled for next year's event making this a green tradition. New this year will be an event check in held at the Hallet Street entrance to park. **RAIN DATE IS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> AT 5:30 P.M.**

“The Great Pumpkin Float gives everyone a real appreciation for the natural wonders of this park while enjoying a unique and peaceful Halloween event. It’s fun for all ages!” said Valerie Burns, President of BNAN.

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation is pleased to sponsor this popular event with the Boston Natural Areas Network.

62 Summer Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, 617-542-7696 [www.bostonnatural.org](http://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 more information about the organization, becoming a member or programs and events, visit [www.bostonnatural.org](http://www.bostonnatural.org) or call 617-542-7696.

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BNAN Great Pumpkin Float photo links:

<http://www.box.net/shared/static/tt6gq4hrhv.jpg>  
<http://www.box.net/shared/static/mb9i171kr3.jpg>  
<http://www.box.net/shared/static/g7mmip7irh.JPG>  
<http://www.box.net/shared/static/ebc42h4v3j.jpg>  
<http://www.box.net/shared/static/sth34roqgf.jpg>  
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<http://www.box.net/shared/static/j5makrxy4e.jpg>  
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