

4.8.13

Dear Staff & Community,

Good morning, hope you had a nice weekend.

***Tip of the Week: Plan a hike. Find a trail close to home and take your friends or family for a stroll in the woods. If you'd like to, bring a field guide or bird book to identify what you see.**

Farm School Programs for Student Groups

Located in Athol, MA, the Farm School has programs for visiting schools. Each school year, 1,500 children join farmers and naturalists on our farm for 3-day programs. The students come with their class, in groups of up to 40 at one time, many times splitting a week between two groups from the same school. The work and care of the farm is the mainstay of the program. The farm itself is 130 acres, with about 40 acres of open land and 90 acres of woods. Website: http://www.farmschool.org/contact_phone.html

Energy Efficiency Upgrades

Another energy efficiency project has been completed at the Peabody School, Gately Youth Center and O'Neill Branch Library. Projected energy savings from these efficiency upgrades is an estimated 106,700 kilowatt hours/year and 10,800 therms/year, resulting in avoided costs of approximately \$31,000/year for the city. These energy savings represent averting over 285,000 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere annually, the equivalent of removing 27 cars from the road!

350.Org

350 Massachusetts is a volunteer-led, campaign-focused initiative connecting and organizing a strong grassroots coalition to address climate change and build a just and secure future beyond fossil fuels. ~Meetings are held every two weeks.~ All meetings are held at First Church Cambridge, 11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA and begin at 6PM for potluck and networking, with the general meeting and working groups at 7PM.~

Household Hazardous Waste Collection 4/20

2013 dates: 4/20, 7/13, 10/19 from 9am-1pm. Bring accepted items to the Danehy Park Parking Lot on Field St at Fern St. Cambridge residents only. Items accepted include auto fluids, batteries (non alkaline), car tires, glues, medications, mercury items, paint products, solvents, and propane tanks (20 lbs or less). [Click here](#) for a full list of items accepted, alternative options and items you can bring to the Recycling Center during open hours. When deciding what items to bring to a hazardous waste collection, look for products labeled with these signal words: POISON, DANGER, WARNING, or CAUTION.

Green Cambridge

Green Cambridge works to create a more sustainable Cambridge, and to protect the environment for the health and safety of all. Green Cambridge meets monthly at the Eastern Bank community room in Harvard Square, usually on the first Thursday of every month at 6:30pm. All are welcome and invited to attend! For more information and a listing of community events, please visit: <http://www.greencambridge.org/>

East Cambridge Clean Up Day

Join East End House, The East Cambridge Business Association, Kennedy-Longfellow Elementary School, and Putnam Avenue Upper School for our *4th Annual* EAST CAMBRIDGE CLEAN UP DAY Including an Environmental Fair: Saturday, April 27th, 9:30 a.m. – 2:00pm. To RSVP, contact Tim Severyn, Director of Community Programs at East End House, timothy@eastendhouse.org or call 617-876-4444.

Yard Waste Collection Starts 4/1

Weekly yard waste collection (same pickup day as recycling/trash) begins April 1-5 through December 9-13. Place yard waste in paper refuse bags or loose in barrels, no plastic bags. Request [stickers online](#) or call 617-349-4800. From April-October, free compost is available to residents in small quantities at the Recycling Center during open hours: Tues/Thurs 4-7:30pm and Sat 9-4pm. Note that clean plastic plant pots are accepted with curbside recycling. Pemberton Farms sells the SoilSaver backyard compost bin for \$60 at 2225 Mass Ave. Make sure your backyard compost bin is at least 50% “browns” (dry leaves, torn up cardboard, crumpled paper) and no more than 50% “greens” (food scraps, grass). Always bury greens or cover up with browns. Keep your backyard compost bin vegetarian (no meat, no dairy, no oils). If you cannot compost at home, find out where you can [drop-off food scraps!](#)

Thank you,

Kristen

Kristen von Hoffmann
Sustainability Manager
Cambridge Public School District
work: (617) 349-6856
mobile: (617) 599-7264

Cambridge Green Schools Initiative~
<http://www3.cpsd.us/sustainability/Sustainability>