

6.10.13

Dear Staff & Community,

Hope you had a nice weekend.

***Tip of the Week: If you're interested in starting to bike to work, consider buying a used bicycle. Then, ask a friend or experienced biker to take a few rides with you and help you get comfortable biking daily. Summer months are a great time to transition to biking and to stop driving.***

### **Cleaning Out Classrooms Sustainably**

If you are school staff or students, we encourage you to clean out classrooms and lockers with sustainability in mind. As part of the Cambridge Green Schools Initiative, we ask that all materials that can be recycled or re-used get recycled on site or donated. Our Office for Sustainability will send detailed reminders about what materials can be recycled to school principals, custodians, and teacher.

Meanwhile, check out "What to Recycle" online for a list of acceptable materials:

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/ourservices/recyclingandtrash/curbsidecollections/curbsiderecyclingbasics.aspx>.

### **Botany Walks at Alewife**

**1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, June 14th**

Botanist Walter Kittredge is conducting a region-wide herbarium project to bring attention to the local New England flora, its presence and value, and is looking closely at vegetation at Alewife Reservation. Walter is Senior Curatorial Assistant at the Harvard University Herbaria, a world-wide research collection of over 5 million dried plant specimens. Participants will meet at the Alewife Brook parking lot at Cambridge. Discovery Park at 100 Acorn Park Drive in Cambridge.

### **Schools Recycling & Composting Statistics**

Please check out how much your school recycled (and composted, if applicable). A big thank you to our custodians, teachers, students, and the Department of Public Works for all pitching in and making this work together:

<http://www.cambridgema.gov/theworks/ourservices/recyclingandtrash/aboutrecycling/Schools/recyclinginschools/recyclingreports.aspx>

### **Go Green Edible Plant Bike Tour**

**5:30 pm, June 14th**

As part of FAR and Green Cambridge Day of Action in behalf of the silver maple forest, Nick Woebcke and Galen Mook lead a bike tour at dusk around the perimeter of the Alewife Reservation and woodlands. Edible plant expert David Craft, will educate riders on the vast amount of edible plants in the area at periodic stops. Sponsored by the Friends of Alewife Reservation. Participants will meet at the at the passenger pickup of the Alewife T-stop in Cambridge.

### **Action to Save Silver Maple Forest.**

**Alewife MBTA Station, 8am to 9am, 5pm to 6pm, June 14th**

*Followed by a full day vigil along Acorn Park Drive*

A Silver Maple Forest day of action will take place at the Alewife MBTA Station and Acorn Park Drive on Friday, June 14th, sponsored by Green Cambridge and co-sponsored by FAR. Starting

at 8:00am during rush hour, citizens of Arlington, Belmont, Cambridge and the surrounding area will make known their concerns about proposed dangerous, illegal wetlands development in the area with a group demonstration at the Alewife MBTA Station. All are welcome to join us and participate in a respectful and peaceful manner. Following the demonstration, we will move along Acorn Park Drive and hold a vigil throughout the day, moving back to the Alewife MBTA station starting at 5pm. A guided bicycle ride around the Reservation perimeter will start at 5:30pm for individuals and families, to learn about the rich ecology of the 130 acre Alewife Reservation and the adjoining Silver Maple Forest.

### **Do Something Super with Unwanted Furniture**

Find the type of furniture you have to donate to see which of our heroic partners below can give it a second life—and you might be able to get a tax deduction. Almost all offer free pickup of your clean (no stains, pet hair or bed bugs), good-condition (usable, rip-free) items. If you have a mattress, boxspring, sleeper sofa, or futon... know that the Salvation Army, MA Coalition for the Homeless, and Aid to Incarcerated Mothers will rescue your clean items in good-condition. So make the call! Most partners only require 1-2 weeks' notice for pick up. Short on time? Check out our partners' websites for drop-off locations, hours, and to check that they will accept your donation.

- [Salvation Army](#) Use their online pickup form or call 1-800-SA-TRUCK.
- [MA Coalition for the Homeless](#) Email [albenny@mahomeless.org](mailto:albenny@mahomeless.org) or call (781) 595-7570
- [Aid to Incarcerated Mothers](#) Call (617) 536-0058.
- [Boomerangs](#) Use their online form or call (617) 309-7220.
- [MIT Student Furniture Exchange](#) Email [fx@mit.edu](mailto:fx@mit.edu) or call (717) 253-4293.~Free pick up for substantial donations only.
- [Epilepsy Foundation](#) Use their online form or call (888) 322-8209.

By choosing to reuse, we save time, money, energy and resources. Reuse offers quality products to people and organizations with limited means, while generating jobs and helping the economy. The recovery and redistribution of unwanted, yet perfectly usable materials helps the environment. Reuse preserves a material's resources, including the value of the materials, labor, technology, and embodied energy.

**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>