

## What We Do - Some highlights over the years

- 1987 Brookline GreenSpace Alliance (BGSA) is founded. BGSA founding motivated by citizen concern about damaging use of Larz Anderson Park. The vision is for a Town-wide organization to work with individual parks friends groups to advocate for preservation and protection of the Town's public lands.
- 1988 BGSA is appointed to Moderator's Committee to study parks and open space management.
- 1990 BGSA advocates for TM approval of Design Review committees for park capital improvements which include neighbors, park commissioners and necessary consultants.
- 1993 BGSA rallies conservationists when Putterham Woods is threatened.
- 1993 BGSA acts as fiscal agent for Larz Anderson Park initiative.
- 1994 BGSA collaborates with U. Mass Forestry Department, the Town and the Tree Planting Committee as they design and implement an inventory of municipal street trees performed by volunteers.
- 1994 BGSA collaborates with Conservation Commission on Open Space Tour focused on properties in danger of development.
- 1995 Task Force on Open Space is established when BGSA raises questions about management accountabilities and efficacy of park maintenance.
- 1996 BGSA sponsors Lost Pond, a video detailing efforts to preserve the nature sanctuary.
- 2000 BGSA organizes and sponsors Forum on Climate Change. Climate Change Action Brookline is formed and the Town implements a Climate Action Plan
- 2003 BGSA takes lead in assuring the Town's Comprehensive 10-Year Plan emphasizes a high priority on green space and re-affirms a "no net loss of open space" provision.
- 2004 BGSA assumes responsibility for the Environmental Learning Project from Friends of Hall's Pond.
- 2004 Earth Night Brookline is launched with showing of Pale Male at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. This event evolves into The Muddy River Environmental Film Series, Greater Boston's only environmental film series.
- 2004 BGSA grants Friends of the Minot Rose Garden a Neighborhood Initiative Grant to help with the effort to replant the badly deteriorating garden and continues to act as fiscal agent for the group.
- 2004 BGSA co-chairs the production of the Conservation Commission's 2005 Open Space Plan.
- 2006 BGSA establishes a Land Acquisition committee to look at alternatives and methodologies for expanding Brookline's base of protected open space.

## Education



Left: Brookline's Environmental Educator with first graders at Ward's Pond.

Below: Spring bird walk and winter tree ID walk.



## Advocacy



Meeting with Town officials and manning information tables at public events

Holding the land restriction for Fisher Hill Park



Opening day at Fisher Hill Reservoir Park

## Land Protection



GreenSpace Grove at the park

- 2006 BGSA lobbies to have the Parks, Open Space and Recreation Strategic Master Plan abide by provisions in the Town's Comprehensive Plan and Open Space Plan.
- 2007 BGSA launches Celebrate OUR Earth, a Town-wide Earth Day celebration encouraging volunteerism.
- 2007 A user-friendly map of open spaces in Brookline is created.
- 2008 BGSA works with Conservation Commission to protect the lands held by the Brookline Land Trust.
- 2008 BGSA publishes Landscapes of Brookline An Enduring Legacy, a tribute to the contribution of open space to the quality of life in Brookline.
- 2009 BGSA co-chairs the production of the Conservation Commission's 2010 Open Space Plan.
- 2010 BGSA holds a Forum on How Zoning Can Protect Open Space.
- 2010 The Alliance accepts the Conservation Restriction for 10 acre Fisher Hill Reservoir Park.
- 2011 BGSA puts major lobbying effort into saving the Town Arborist position to support the health of Brookline's urban forest. This supports the creation of a new position of Supervisor of Forestry Operations.
- 2013 Celebrates 25 years of environmental advocacy and education
- 2014 PLACE highlights the importance of land protection in Brookline
- 2015 Makes major contribution to the Dukakis dedication in Riverway Park, the Emerald Necklace
- 2016 Acts as fiscal agent for Friends of Larz Anderson Park sculpture installation
- 2016 Supports creation of Lawton Community Garden
- 2016 Participates in the opening of Fisher Hill Reservoir Park