



BRIARWOOD ACTION NETWORK

Building a Stronger Community

Contact: Beth Brooks

E-mail: bbrooks.ban@gmail.com

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BRIARWOOD BLOOMS FOR PARK DAY

Grassroots has taken on a whole new meaning for the Briarwood Action Network (BAN). This year, the Briarwood's Hoover Park has been honored as a kick-off location for the NYC Parks Department's semi-annual "It's My Park Day" on Saturday, May 4th. BAN's positive results at Hoover Park during previous "Park Days" made the Briarwood Action Network a natural choice for this year's kick-off celebration.

A collaborative effort of the NYC Parks Department and Partnerships for Parks, "It's My Park Day" was established to encourage individual communities to take responsibility for, and develop a sense of ownership for, their neighborhood parks. Initially conceived as a one-day event, this spring's "Park Day" will be celebrated during the entire month of May. The Briarwood Action Network has made "Park Day" one of its major events drawing participation from all segments of the community: residents, local businesses and schools, police precincts and firehouses.

Hoover Park, located right off Briarwood's Main Street on Manton Street, the site of basketball courts, a softball field and a very popular playground, is also frequented by many nonresidents of Briarwood. "Park Day" activities sponsored by BAN have spruced up Hoover Park by enhancing the seating areas through painting benches, raking leaves, improving drainage and cleaning, and planting.

BAN's signature project at Hoover Park has been Briarwood Blooms. Over 2500 daffodils have been planted during "It's My Park Day" as part of The Daffodil Project. The Daffodil Project was founded in 2001 as a living memorial to September 11th. Since 2001, over 5 million yellow daffodils have been planted in New York City: yellow is the color of remembrance. In 2007, Mayor Bloomberg named the yellow daffodil the official flower of New York in recognition of the millions of daffodils that have bloomed since 2001 and the thousands of New Yorkers who join together to make their neighborhoods, and the city, a more beautiful place to live.

"That's what makes Park Day so important to BAN," says Aida Vernon, president of the Briarwood Action Network. "It's a time when everyone in Briarwood, regardless of age or physical capacity, can join together in one place to celebrate and beautify our community."

"It's My Park Day" kicks off on Saturday, May 4th at 11:00 a.m. Grab a paintbrush, bring the kids for arts & crafts, storytelling and refreshments. Further information: www.briarwoodactionnetwork.com.

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