

Groundwork SOMERVILLE

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Dear neighbors,

I am writing to invite you to join in the important mission of a dynamic local nonprofit organization—**Groundwork Somerville**.

Founded in 2000 by a broad coalition of community groups, local business leaders, and city officials, Groundwork Somerville strives to bring about the sustained regeneration, improvement and management of the physical environment through the development of community-based partnerships which empower people, businesses and organizations to promote environmental, economic and social well-being. With the support of individuals like you, GWS achieves its goals by serving as a catalyst for community-based revitalization projects and by providing critical technical assistance, fundraising, and project management to community groups and residents. Since its inception, Groundwork Somerville has proven to be an extremely cost-effective organization, utilizing and fostering hundreds of volunteer hours, community partnerships, in-kind donations, and city resources.

Over the past three years, GWS has worked closely with the Somerville Public Schools to build nutrition learning gardens at five elementary schools across the city. In addition to planning, creating and building the gardens, students learn valuable math and science skills as they actively participate in the lifecycle of the plants they grow in their schoolyard gardens. With your support, GWS will expand its school gardens program to additional schools in Somerville, engaging more youth in this unique environmental and nutrition program—**please make a gift to Groundwork Somerville today!**

Your gift to Groundwork Somerville is not only an investment in the city's youth, it is an investment in the greening of our Somerville community. Your support will help advance several new projects in 2007 including 1) the Green Team; an environmental education and stewardship summer jobs program for high school youth, 2) the Butterflies are Teachers Program; a peer mentorship program where youth teach youth science and math through the lifecycle of a butterfly, and 3) a Green Infrastructure Research Project; a collaborative effort of many organizations, residents, and city officials, to analyze and act on environmental issues central to the quality of life of residents in Somerville including storm water run-off, urban canopy cover, and parks and open space.

Please join us in GWS's important mission to engage Somerville's youth in environmental learning and improving environmental quality in the city by making a gift to Groundwork Somerville—your support makes the work of GWS possible!

Thank you in advance for your tax-deductible gift to Groundwork Somerville—your generous support is most appreciated.

Sincerely,

Facts about Somerville

The City of Somerville is the most densely populated city in New England, with approximately 77,000 residents living in close proximity to commercial and industrial sites all packed into an area measuring just 4.1 miles. The city's diverse, vibrant neighborhoods and distinctive squares are sources of pride, but that leaves just 3% of



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