

Buttonwood Park to celebrate Arbor Day



Buttonwood Park in New Bedford. Photo by Michael Silvia.

Friends of Buttonwood Park is delighted and grateful to welcome the Southeast Massachusetts Tree Wardens & Foresters Association to Buttonwood Park on Saturday, April 19, at 8:30 a.m.

Approximately 50 tree professionals from this organization are expected to participate in this event. Their work will include planting, trimming, and removing trees, as well planting shrubs at the Holocaust Monument. The public is welcome to come and view this work, some of which will be performed by tree climbers. Additionally, Friends of Buttonwood Park will offer tours through the arboretum.

Friends of Buttonwood Park president, Anne Eades, said, "I am so thankful to have all this expert tree care donated to our park, and I can't thank Bruce Duffy, president of this organization, enough for getting in contact with us to arrange the day of service."

According to Duffy, his team will try to tackle a variety of

park projects, including removing several dead red pines along Rockdale Avenue, pruning the large oak trees near the playground, and grinding stumps. He noted that G. Bourne Knowles will plant donated shrubs at the Holocaust Monument. Peter Sellers, senior arborist at NSTAR, approved the plant donation on behalf of NSTAR.

Duffy said that the team's Holocaust Monument work will also include removing "a large oak that has a large crack and lots of decay visible...As requested the stump will be left high for enjoyment for kids to play on."

To accommodate this work and ensure public safety, sections of the park will be closed to vehicle traffic during certain times of the day.

The City of New Bedford Department of Parks Recreation & Beaches and the Department of Public Infrastructure are also partners in this community service event.