

For Immediate Release: February 11, 2010
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“Shrink Your Footprint” Returns as Environmental Fair

Now in its third year, the Shrink Your Footprint series of environmental workshops has expanded into a half-day fair featuring workshops for the whole family on how to live an economically healthy and environmentally friendly lifestyle.

The fair will be held from 1 to 5 p.m., on Saturday, March 13, at the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School, 1121 Ashley Boulevard, New Bedford, MA.

The fair has been funded with a grant from the Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance (SEEAL), a fund of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts, in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency and the City of New Bedford.

The event will kickoff with live music by Brick by Brick, vendors, and exhibits, along with snacks and beverages from local sources. Three workshop sessions will follow at 1:30, 2:35, and 3:40 p.m. There will be three separate workshops during each session; one each for adults, youth, and families/kids. Workshop topics will include native landscapes, gardening, green parenting, using media to get your message out, worm composting, and much more.

Several SEEAL partner organizations are working together on this project, including Buttonwood Park Zoo, Marion Institute, Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust, Lloyd Center for the Environment, Massachusetts Audubon Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary, Westport River Watershed Alliance, Brick by Brick, and Alliance for Climate Education.

Several vendors will also be at the event with items for sale, and information that will help attendees shrink your footprint. There will be a free raffle for everyone that attends, with prizes from the vendors and sponsoring organizations. Admission is free for the event.

For a detailed schedule, visit www.seeal.org. Or for more information, contact Jennifer Marshall, SEEAL Coordinator, jmarshall@seeal.org, 508-493-4343.

About SEEAL:

SEEAL is a non-profit network of over 40 partner organizations governed by a 23 member Board of Directors, who collaborate to mobilize community resources and increase capacity for environmental education programs and activities. For over a decade, SEEAL has acted as an umbrella organization, applying for and providing over \$1.5 million in grants to local non-profits and organizations that provide environmental education, outreach, and mitigation, in Southeastern Massachusetts.

About the Community Foundation:

Since 1995, area residents have been turning to the Community Foundation to make their philanthropic giving as effective as possible. CFSEMA is a public charity serving thousands of people who share a common concern - improving the quality of life in Southeastern Massachusetts.

While the Foundation's primary grantmaking focus is on the SouthCoast communities of Greater New Bedford, Greater Fall River, and Southern Plymouth County, CFSEMA is a regional foundation serving 41 cities and towns. Over the past five years, the Community Foundation has distributed more than \$8 million in grants and program support from 127 funds to humanitarian, educational and cultural organizations in the region. To learn more about the Foundation, visit www.cfsema.org.