



UPDATE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Charles River Swimming Day

The Charles River Conservancy announces program partners for 2019 City Splash, scheduled for Saturday, June 15th at DCR's Fiedler Dock on the Esplanade.

Boston, MA – Tuesday, June 11th, 2019 – The Charles River Conservancy (CRC) is excited to announce additional program partners and activities for the upcoming *Charles River Swimming Day*. In March, the CRC announced its collaboration with the Charles River Swimming Club (CRSC) and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to present the Charles River Swimming Day. CRSC will host its *Annual One Mile Swim* and CRC will host its *City Splash*, a community swim in deep water, on the same day: June 15th, 2019 (see previous press release below).

The CRC now announces it will also work with a number of program partners to provide fun, dry-land activities on Fielder Field between noon and 4pm, including a pop-up seating area, coloring books, and lawn activities by Culture House, face painting by Kaleidoscope Art and Entertainment, commemorative tote bag decorating, Mediterranean food by Cravin' Shallot food truck, and popsicles by Wildpops.

The CRC will also have a section of a floating wetland on display, which the organization will be installing later this summer or early next spring at North Point Park in collaboration with Penelope Taylor Studios, Foth Engineering Group, and Max Rome, Northeastern University PhD Candidate in Environmental Engineering. Rome will be at *City Splash* to share information about his research and answer questions.

Community Boating will provide important equipment and the YMCA of Greater Boston will provide lifeguards as well as family-friendly activities and information about water safety leading into the summer swim season. While swimming will be limited to registered participants, the public is invited to come and enjoy dry-land activities even if they have not registered to swim in the river.

“City Splash has been such a great event since it began in 2013,” said **CRC Executive Director Laura Jasinski**. “We’re thrilled to be working with so many great partners to turn the event into a real celebration of river swimming. Even if you want to stay dry, come on down – there will be lots to do!”

At 4pm, the general swim will end and City Splash will conclude with a cannonball contest. Contestants will include Jasinski; Massachusetts State Representative, Jay Livingstone; Councillor Craig Kelley from the City of Cambridge; Michael Nichols, Executive Director of the Esplanade Association; and Emily Norton, Executive Director of the Charles River Watershed Association.

An Afterparty will be held at Za Pizza in Kendall Square from 6 to 8pm featuring a surprise musical release and the chance to have photos taken with Mermaid Sariel. A limited number of afterparty



tickets are still available at www.thecharles.org/citysplash. City Splash and the Afterparty are sponsored by DivcoWest, Cambridge Trust, The Hamilton Company Charitable Foundation, Foth, Bonny Lamb—Compass Real Estate, Harvard University, Highland Street Foundation, Turner Construction, Boston University, CSL Consulting, and Northeastern University.

As **Jasinski** reminds us, “there’s nothing better than pizza after a day of swimming!”

PREVIOUS RELEASE:

Boston, MA—Wednesday, March 20th, 2019—The Charles River Conservancy (CRC) and Charles River Swimming Club (CRSC), in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), is proud to announce the *Charles River Swimming Day* on June 15, 2019. Made possible through DCR Special Use Permits, the public is invited to participate in the 11th Annual One Mile Swim and the 6th Annual City Splash that day at the DCR’s Fiedler Dock on the Esplanade in Boston, MA. A rain date is planned for June 22, 2019. Join the CRC in the evening for an afterparty at Za across the river from Fiedler Dock. More information coming soon.

For the first time, both events will be on the same day in celebration of river swimming. “People used to swim in the Charles River all of the time,” said **CRC Executive Director Laura Jasinski**, “We believe it’s important for everyone to have access to a natural place to cool off in the summer and are grateful to the DCR and CRSC for partnering on a full swim day for the Charles.” Having enjoyed swimming at a past event, Jasinski observed, “There’s nothing like swimming in the Charles.”

“Our annual one mile race is one of the only open water swim races that takes place in Boston, and it is the only opportunity for swimmers to compete in the Charles,” said **CRSC Race Director & Vice President Kate Radville**. “With iconic views of the Boston skyline and a unique location in the heart of the city, it is a great opportunity to enjoy the river! We are looking forward to our eleventh race this year.”

The Department of Conservation and Recreation works to protect promote, and enhance the common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources for the well-being of all. The health and happiness of people across Massachusetts depend on the accessibility and quality of green infrastructure. DCR continues to improve the vital connection between people and the environment by partnering with groups like the CRC and CRSC. “The Baker-Polito Administration strives to foster strong partnerships with stakeholders, like the Charles River Conservancy and the Charles River Swimming Club, in an effort to work together and reach common goals that directly benefit the public,” said **DCR Commissioner Leo Roy**. “Importantly, the annual Charles River Swimming Day provides a unique experience for Massachusetts residents and visitors alike to access the Charles River during this community event.”

Below is a brief description of each event. Swimmers can choose the event that fits their style or participate in both! Participants will need to register for each event separately.

The Charles River Conservancy’s City Splash 2019 Registration: Coming in May	The Charles River Swimming Club’s Annual One Mile Swim Register Here
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community swim in deep water • Start: mid-day through afternoon • Demarcated swimming area off public dock, for safety reasons restricted to registered participants • 25-minute time slots • Experienced swimmers only! • Age 12+ and confident treading water • You will not be able to touch the bottom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Mile race • Start: Early morning • 1-mile loop course between Harvard and Longfellow Bridge • Participation cap: 200 pre-registered swimmers • Experienced swimmers only! • Age 18+ and capable of swimming 1 mile in 40 minutes or less • You will not be able to touch the bottom

Thanks to the hard work of the EPA’s [Charles River Initiative](#) and the dedication of governments, environmental groups and nonprofits, the Charles River has made a tremendous comeback since swimming ended in the 1950’s due to the health risks posed by pollution. The EPA most recently graded it an A- for bacterial contamination. Both the CRC and the CRSC work towards the day when swimming is not just a one day occurrence, but has a home again in the Charles. The CRC is currently involved in a multi-year plan to build a safe, fun, and accessible seasonal [swimming facility](#) in the Charles River near North Point Park. “One day isn’t enough,” said **Jasinski**. “We look forward to the day when swimming in the Charles is a regular activity again.”

About the Charles River Conservancy

The Charles River Conservancy (CRC), founded in 2000, is a non-profit dedicated to the stewardship, renewal, and enhancement of the urban parklands along the Charles River, from Boston Harbor to the Watertown Dam. One of the CRC’s goals is to create a seasonal swim park at North Point Park that will allow the public to enjoy river swimming once again.

For more information about the CRC, please visit [TheCharles.org](#) or call 617-608-1410. Follow the CRC on Twitter [@CharlesRiverCRC](#), Instagram [@CharlesRiverCRC](#) or Facebook [Facebook.com/CharlesRiverConservancy](#)

About the Charles River Swimming Club

The Charles River Swimming Club, Inc. is an all-volunteer organization founded in 2005 with the dual purpose of organizing competitive swimming events in the Charles River and facilitating the return of public river swimming.

For more information about the CRSC, please visit [charlesriverswimmingclub.org](#) or email raceinfo@charlesriverswimmingclub.org

About the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is steward of one of the largest state parks systems in the country. Its 450,000 acres is made up of forests, parks, greenways, historic sites and landscapes, seashores, lakes, ponds, reservoirs and watersheds. DCR protects, promotes, and enhances the state’s natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

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