

Rosa Hartman Park Benefits From "National Public Lands Day" Project

Nation's Largest Volunteer Effort for Public Lands



On September 28th, Rosa Hartman Park was cleaned up, thanks to a nationwide volunteer effort that seeks to honor the Civilian Conservation Corps and protect America's natural resources.

Volunteers from the Waterside Neighborhood Coalition will assemble at Rosa Hartman Park for an environmental cleanup of the park as part of National Public Lands Day initiative in Stamford.

Over 70 years ago, President Roosevelt mobilized an army of over 3 million men who fought the devastation of the Dust Bowl and the America Chestnut tree blight by planting over 3 billion trees, building bridges and 800 state parks and fighting forest fires. In Connecticut, there were 42 projects completed by the Civilian Conservation Corps.



Christel Truglia removes invasive plants at Rosa Hartman Park.

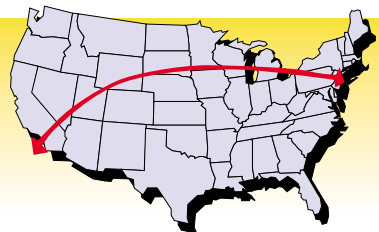
This year, National Public Lands Day volunteers will say "Thank You" to "Roosevelt's Tree Army" by continuing their tradition of public land stewardship. Over 50,000 men, women and children will form a one-day volunteer conservation army at over 350 sites across the country to cleanup, repair and maintain public lands.



Volunteer cleaned and added plant material to the Welcome Garden.

FACTOID #2

Americans throw away enough office and writing paper annually to build a wall 12 feet high, stretching from New York City to Los Angeles.



You Lucky Dog!

Six new Mutt Mitt stations are being assembled, and will be installed by the end of November.

Requests for the new stations were received from residents and Stamford's Office of Operations. Four of the stations will be located in the newly refurbished Kosciuszko Park in the South End, one at the corner of Sea Beach Drive and Hobson Street in Shippan, and at Clark Street in downtown.



Almstead Tree & Shrub Care Company's Adoption Completed

Almstead Tree & Shrub Care Company has finalized the adoption of the traffic island at the intersection of Scofieldtown Road and High Ridge Road. We look forward to the development of this site.



In the Garden

Winter Care of Houseplants

Houseplants often are confronted with adverse growing conditions during the winter months. The following are key factors in keeping houseplants healthy, particularly during winter. All houseplants must have *light*. The best light is a southeastern exposure of filtered, never direct sunlight. Attempt to locate the plant in a permanent location, as constant moving exposes plants to changing light conditions. Too much light or direct light often causes burning of plant foliage.

Houseplants are often over-watered while a few may be under watered. Try to water, as the plant needs it. The best key to watering is to allow the top of the soil in the pot to *become fairly dry* prior to watering, then water well, soaking the soil. Most houseplants, depending on size of pot, location, type of soil and size of plant will need weekly waterings. A lack of water will cause yellowing and wilting of plants. However, these same symptoms are characteristic of too much water. If leaves are wilted due to lack of water, they will become turgid after a good watering. If the leaves do not become turgid after a watering, then probably too much water has been given over a period of time causing damage to the root system.

Winter heat in homes is often very hard on houseplants. The ideal temperature for most plants in the home is from 65 to 75 degrees during the day, and a 55 to 65 degree night temperature. Avoid placing plants near heat sources.

Humidity or moisture in the air is necessary and beneficial to most tropical houseplants. A 40 to 60 percent relative humidity is ideal; yet this cannot be provided in homes during winter, as heating systems dry out the air. To increase the indoor humidity from time to time, syringe the plants foliage with a fine spray of water. Another method of increasing the humidity is *placing the*



pots on gravel, which is covered with water. Place the pots on the pebbles, being certain that the bottoms are not sitting in the water.

Houseplants must have a loose, *well-drained soil*. Packed soils should be loosened from time to time, being sure not to damage the root system. Plan to repot plants in spring when growing conditions are best.

Most houseplants require little fertilization during winter since rapid growth is not made at this time. Feeding once or twice during the winter months will be adequate for most plants.

Avoid drafts and provide fresh air. Plants do not like locations that expose them to cold or *hot air*. They also suffer from gas fumes and products of incomplete combustion, which makes fresh air essential during winter.

Clean the plant's foliage by washing with warm water. You may add a drop or two of detergent to the water used for cleaning the leaves. Rinse washed leaves with clear water to remove sap film. Keep plants attractive by removing dead leaves and faded blooms.

Mitzvah Day 2002



The Jewish Community Center of Stamford hosted its fourth annual Mitzvah Day on Sunday, October 20th. For the past three years, hundreds of people of all ages have

participated in social action projects that have helped their community. Keep Stamford Beautiful partnered with the Jewish Community Center's "Mitzvah Day 2002," and utilized its volunteer work force to plant 1,000 daffodil bulbs at the entrance to Scalzi Park.



Just a reminder...



RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE