



# Better Beaches Program 2012



650 youth and teens celebrate clean water at the 2nd Annual Youth Beach Bash and Splash at the BCYF Curley Community Center at M Street Beach in South Boston.

In 2012, Save the Harbor's Better Beaches Program supported 30 free beach events including sand sculpting competitions, beachfront concerts, movie nights, reading programs, environmental education programs, and competitive swims on public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket.





# Better Beaches Program

In 2008 Save the Harbor / Save the Bay launched our Better Beaches Small Grants Program to help local communities jump-start free events and activities on public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket.

Today the funds to sustain this program come from our annual “Harpoon Helps Cupid Splash” pledge fundraiser and our Better Beaches Program funding partners at Harpoon Brewery, JetBlue Airways, P&G Gillette, National Grid, Comcast Massachusetts, the Harold Whitworth Pierce Charitable Trust, Russo Marine and Legal Sea Foods. Thanks to all of you, and to our partners at the BCYF Curley Community Center and the Department of Conservation & Recreation for their support as well.

In 2012 “Harpoon Helps Cupid Splash” raised more than \$30,000 from nearly 500 splashers and supporters to fund 30 free beach events including sand sculpting competitions, beachfront concerts, movie nights, reading programs, environmental education programs, and competitive swims on public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket.

In 2012, Save the Harbor / Save the Bay awarded \$26,500 in small grants from \$500 - \$5,000 to 14 groups in 9 beachfront communities and waterfront neighborhoods from Nahant to Nantasket.

This past summer we also hosted two Better Beaches events at the BCYF Curley Community Center at M Street Beach in South Boston. These included the Youth Beach Bash and Splash, which brought more than 650 kids to the beach to celebrate clean water, and the Swim for Boston Harbor, a one mile, chip-timed competitive swim on one of the cleanest urban beaches in America.

Over the past five years, our community partners in Nahant, Lynn, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, Quincy and Hull have leveraged \$143,500 in small grants received from Save the Harbor with \$503,500 in cash and in-kind donations from local government and small businesses for a total investment of \$647,000 in more than 150 free events and programs for the region’s residents and visitors alike.



**“The region’s public beaches - from Nahant to Nantasket - are our Cape Cod, linking more than one million people with each other and the Harbor and Bay”**

**- Former Senator Jack Hart, former Co-Chair of the Metropolitan Beaches Commission**

Save the Harbor's 2012 Better Beaches Program



# Better Beaches Community Partners

Friends of Lynn and Nahant Beach  
Friends of Heritage State Park  
Revere Beach Partnership  
Winthrop Parks and Recreation  
Friends of Belle Isle Marsh  
Friends of Winthrop Beach and the Winthrop Art Association  
East Boston YMCA and the Friends of Constitution Beach  
South Boston Neighborhood House, BCYF Curley Community Center  
City Point Neighborhood Association  
Friends of Savin Hill Shores  
Friends of Wollaston Beach  
Quincy Beaches and Coastal Commission  
Hull Nantasket Chamber of Commerce  
Friends of the Paragon Carousel



# Better Beaches Funding Partners

Harpoon Brewery  
JetBlue Airways  
P&G Gillette  
National Grid  
Comcast Massachusetts  
The Harold Whitworth Pierce Charitable Trust  
Russo Marine  
Legal Sea Foods

Special thanks to our partners at the BCYF Curley Community Center and the Department of Conservation & Recreation for their support.



Special thanks to the 500 splashers and supporters of this year's Harpoon Helps Cupid Splash, who raised more than \$30,000 to fund 30 free beach events including sand sculpting competitions, beachfront concerts, movie nights, reading programs, environmental education programs, and competitive swims on public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket.

# Here's what they're saying about Save the Harbor / Save the Bay



## “350 Kids Enjoy Trip to Spectacle Island”

“A shard of beach glass can act as a window to the past. Every item on Spectacle Island has a story we can learn from.”

## “Harbor Helpers”

“Dozens of swimmers took part in the annual 1-mile competitive Swim for Boston Harbor, a one mile chip timed competitive swim to support the non profit group Save the Harbor / Save the Bay.”



## “Beaches Celebrated at Quincy Festival for Kids”

“This is a great way for the kids to get active and the community to come together...People need to get out of the pools and back on the beach.”

## “All Aboard to the Boston Harbor Islands”

“For some of the kids, it will be their first chance to experience Boston Harbor. For these trips are a summer tradition.”



## “Marble-ous Finds on Boston Area Beaches”

“Cobalt blue marbles are washing up on shore from Nahant to Nantasket. What a great way to encourage people to take a fresh look at our region's public beaches. They're the real treasures.”



## “Local Kids Make Big Splash in Boston Harbor”

“1,180 hot dogs and buns, 50 volunteers, 15 lifeguards and 688 kids. What a great way to spend a hot summer day.”



## “Saugus Youth Wins Fishing Tournament”

“The group boarded a fleet of donated boats and set out onto the harbor looking for big fish. Nine year old Joe took first place with a 46-inch, 42 pound striped bass, while 11 year old Brady took second place with a 36-inch, 21 pound striped bass.”



## “Day at the Beach”

“A group of youths and supervisors from the Boston Centers for Youth and Families Curtis Hall Community Center enjoy a day at the M Street Beach in South Boston.”



To see more press clips from the regional and community newspapers from 2012, visit our newsroom at [www.savetheharbor.org](http://www.savetheharbor.org)