



**For immediate release
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**PATRICK ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES
DCR'S UNIVERSAL ACCESS PROGRAM HONORED BY MACY'S**

The Patrick Administration announced today that Macy's chose the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Universal Access Program as the beneficiary of the department store's *Turn Over a New Leaf* program. The program is aimed at raising environmental awareness and inspire interest in park protection and preservation.

Five dollar donations will be accepted until April 25 at all 24 Macy's Massachusetts stores. A portion of the donations will support DCR's Universal Access Program.

"Our Universal Access Program is one of the most innovative and groundbreaking programs in the nation," said DCR Commissioner Rick Sullivan. "We are grateful to Macy's for this contribution, which will provide more opportunities to people with disabilities in our parks."

To expand the public awareness of our agency and its mission, DCR staff will lead an activity at Macy's **Braintree, Burlington, Holyoke, and Natick** store locations on April 25 from 2 to 4 p.m.

DCR's Universal Access Program is dedicated to providing outdoor recreation opportunities in Massachusetts State Parks for visitors of all abilities. Accessibility to the Commonwealth's parks is achieved through site improvements, specialized adaptive recreation equipment, and accessible recreation programs. The funds will enable DCR to enhance the outdoor recreation opportunities in Massachusetts for people of all abilities.

For more information on the Universal Access Program, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr/universal_access/.

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The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, and dams, in addition to 278 bridges and miles of roadways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr. Contact us at mass.parks@state.ma.us.

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