

MEDIA ADVISORY

**For immediate release
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DCR POSTPONES SATURDAY'S ACCESSIBLE RECREATION FAIR

Weather concerns force cancellation of the day-long event

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has canceled the agency's Universal Access Program Recreation Fair originally scheduled for this Saturday, Sept. 27, in Artesani Park in Boston's Brighton neighborhood. Heavy rain is forecast for the entire weekend, forcing postponement of the outdoor fair. A new date will be set soon.

In past years, DCR's Accessible Recreation Fairs have attracted several hundred people, who can learn about and try out accessible bicycles, kayaks, Terra Trek manual wheelchairs, gait belts, and other accessible equipment.

DCR's Universal Access Program (UAP) provides year-round recreational accessibility to state and urban park facilities for individuals with disabilities, their families, and friends. For persons with disabilities, free use of accessible equipment and staff assistance are available.

The program offers accessible cycling, boating, hiking, birdwatching, fishing, horseback riding, and camping programs in summer and fall, as well as ice skating, sit-skating, cross-country skiing, sit cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, kick sledding, snowmobiling, and other winter activities in winter.

The Universal Access Program strives to increase the participation among persons with disabilities in indoor and outdoor recreational activities in integrated settings. For more information on the program, call 617-626-1294 (voice) or 413-577-2200 (TTY) or visit www.mass.gov/dcr and click on "universal access program."

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