

GRO1000™



MEDIA ADVISORY

New Bedford Creates Historical Storytelling Garden

Abolition Row Park revitalizes public greenspace to teach residents about City's history

WHAT: Join Mayor Jon Mitchell, The U.S. Conference of Mayors, the New Bedford Historical Society, The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation and its national partners* for the **GRO1000** dedication ceremony of The Abolition Row Park Project. This transformational public greenspace will revitalize vacant property into a teaching garden that focuses on New Bedford's history as a community of tolerance and a haven for freedom seekers escaping the institution of slavery.

WHY: The Abolition Row Park Project is a part of **GRO1000**, which aims to improve our cities and communities through the development of 1,000 community gardens and greenspaces throughout the U.S. by 2018.

WHEN: **Friday, May 12, 2017**
Dedication program will begin at 11 a.m.

WHO: Mayor Jon Mitchell, City of New Bedford
Su Lok, The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation
Jubi Headley, U.S. Conference of Mayors
Lee Blake, New Bedford Historical Society

WHERE: Abolition Row Park, 18 & 20 Seventh Street, New Bedford, MA 02740

VISUALS:

- More than 50 area youth and volunteers working together with representatives of local and national partner organizations to learn gardening and greening techniques under the direction of experts from the award-winning Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens and KidsGardening.org.
- Presentation of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation's "Give Back To Gro" Youth Gardener Award to a youth who has demonstrated interest and passion for their community through environmental stewardship.
- Grant check presentation to Mayor Jon F. Mitchell by The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation and U.S. Conference of Mayors.

The New Bedford **GRO1000** event is one of several 2017 public installation events being held in the U.S. between April and June. For more information visit www.GRO1000.com.

*The U.S. Conference of Mayors, Garden Writers Association Foundation, Plant A Row for the Hungry (a community-based program started in 1995 that assists with hunger relief), KidsGardening.org, and Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

All inquiries: TBD, City of New Bedford

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