

For Release: May 26, 2010

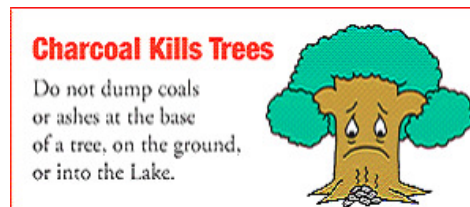
Sample Digital image for use attached.

- Hi-res versions available on request
Or via [photo set on Flickr](#)

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Ready for Memorial Day Weekend:

Protecting Prospect Park's Trees From BBQ coals, and Reducing Litter



Brooklyn, NY – The New York City Department of Parks & Recreation, in conjunction with the Prospect Park Alliance, has launched a public education campaign at Prospect Park about how to safely dispose of barbecue coals, and also the proper disposal of garbage during the busy summer months

In some areas of Prospect Park, more than 50% of trees have been damaged by hot coals from barbecue grills burning into tree trunks and roots. To educate the public about this problem, new signs printed in seven languages – warning that “Charcoal Kills Trees” – are being posted all around the Park. White ribbons printed with the same message are being tied around trees in prime barbecue areas.

[related [images and photos at Flickr](#); media may use with credit to [Prospect Park Alliance](#)]

Prospect Park staff and volunteers are out in the Park on weekends distributing information flyers and barbecue rule cards to Park patrons, and pointing out the locations of the nearest bins for disposing of hot coals. In addition, Parks Enforcement Patrol officers are out in the Park ensuring that Park users are disposing of trash and hot coals in an appropriate manner. Information is also available on the Prospect Park web site at <http://www.prospectpark.org/visit/activities/bbq>

Thanks to the help and support of regular Park users like the dog owners group FIDO, and business partners such as Goldman Sachs, the Prospect Park Alliance has purchased new garbage dumpsters which are being strategically placed around the Park. With a capacity of two cubic yards each, these dumpsters can hold a much greater volume of trash than the existing trash cans found throughout the Park.

Prospect Park has always been fortunate to have a large corps of volunteers, and this year we are more dependent than ever on the efforts of volunteers to help us maintain the Park. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities at the Park every week: for more information, please contact the Volunteer Office at (718) 965-8960 and visit <http://www.prospectpark.org/support/volunteers>

With everyone's help and cooperation, we can ensure a summer in Prospect Park that is fun and well-maintained for everyone. Happy barbecuing!

For more information on Prospect Park events, programs, membership and volunteering, call the Park Hotline at (718) 965-8999 or visit www.prospectpark.org

Dial 311 for all Parks & Recreation information

In partnership with the City of New York and the community, the Prospect Park Alliance restores, develops, and operates Prospect Park for the enjoyment of all by caring for the natural environment, preserving historic design, and serving the public through facilities and programs. Prospect Park's 585 acres of meadows, waterfalls, forest, lakes, and athletic facilities comprise a masterwork of urban green space.