

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE

Friends of Lakeside Park

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Local Residents Take Back the Park

**FRIENDS OF LAKESIDE PARK HOST CLEAN UP AS
PART OF CITYWIDE "IT'S MY PARK DAY"**

More than 40 dedicated local Lakeside residents, including a group of 5th grade students from PS 001, showed up at Lakeside Park on Saturday, May 16th to give something back to the community. The group, organized by Friends of Lakeside Park, spent hours repainting the park house, planting over 2,000 daffodil bulbs, and removing over 20 bags of litter from the park. The Friends of Lakeside Park's clean up was part of "It's My Park Day," a day of clean-up activities taking place across New York City.

Munching on a free bagel donated by Bob's Bagels and sporting an "It's My Park" t-shirt, Lakeside resident Jim Jones explained why he was there, "I live just around the corner," he said, "Without this park my kids would have nowhere to play. This is our park and we need to take care of it."

Friends of Lakeside Park President, Marsha Smith, declared the event a huge success. "This is our biggest clean up ever," she said. "We're really excited to see so many people working to improve our park and community. Also, its great to know that we are part of thousands of New Yorkers cleaning up their local parks today." Known as "It's My Park Day" and run by Partnerships for Parks, a joint program of the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation and City Parks Foundation, the day includes events sponsored by hundreds of community groups. Together, they immeasurably improve the quality of life in New York's many diverse neighborhoods.

The Friends of Lakeside Park is a non-profit community group, founded in 1984, dedicated to taking care of the park. The group cleans the park every two weeks during the warmer months and hosts a summer concert series. The group always welcomes new members. To get involved call Jane Smith, Membership Coordinator, at (212) 555-3333.

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