



**Devens Enterprise Commission
News Bulletin
September 2024**

Project Announcements:

OPENING CELEBRATION OF DEVENS MURAL AT WILLARD FIELD, OCTOBER 8th

The Devens Enterprise Commission, MassDevelopment, and Artist Shara Osgood are pleased to announce the opening celebration of the Devens mural, entitled Intersections of Communities and Cultures. The event will take place on Tuesday, October 8th at 4pm at the location of the mural on Willard Field near the corner of Antietam St. and Sherman Ave. All ages are welcome, and refreshments will be served. More information on the project may be found at <https://www.devensec.com/publicart.html>.

DEVENS MURAL
THE INTERSECTIONS
OF COMMUNITIES
AND CULTURES

Ribbon Cutting Celebration

**Join us on Tuesday,
October 8 at 4:00 pm**
Raindate Wed., Oct. 9 at 4:00pm
Willard Field @ Sherman Ave.,
Devens MA

POCKET FOREST WORKDAY, OCTOBER 16th

The Ayer Devens Pocket Forest Project Team will host a workday at the pocket forest at the Ayer Shirley Middle School (1 Hospital Road) at 4pm on Thursday, October 16th. Activities will include planting, weeding, and mulching. Refreshment will be provided. See the project website <https://climateresilient.wixsite.com/ayerdevens/project-storyand> contact Beth at bethsuedmeyer@devensec.com to sign up.

AYER-DEVENS POCKET FOREST PROJECT

Maintenance Workday

October 16th at 4:00pm
Ayer-Shirley Regional Middle School
1 Hospital Road, Shirley, MA






Join us to learn about the pocket forest project, plant additional plants, spread mulch, and remove invasives and weeds. **Please bring a water bottle and gloves, if you have them.**





Thank you
to all our
supporters!

The Pocket Forest Project works to improve climate resilience in Devens and Ayer and to better connect people with nature, including creating outdoor classrooms and educational curriculum in partnership with local schools.

For more information and to volunteer, contact bethsuedmeyer@devensec.com or (978) 772-8831.

Pocket Forest Project Website: <https://climateresilient.wixsite.com/ayerdevens>

Public Health Alert:

Due to the recent additional human cases of West Nile Virus and EEE reported by the State Department of Public Health and the current high-risk level for EEE in the Devens area, coupled with the prolonged warm temperatures over the next week, Devens will be spraying for mosquitoes Friday, September 13, 2024, starting at 7:30PM. The spraying will be conducted by trained Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project personnel using truck-mounted sprayers and will not involve aerial spraying. The goal

of the spraying is to reduce the mosquito population in Devens. Spraying will take place along Devens streets as highlighted in the image (green and orange highlighted streets).

Generally, there is no need to relocate during mosquito control spraying. The pesticides have been evaluated for this use and found to pose minimal risks to human health and the environment when used according to label directions. Although mosquito control pesticides pose low risks, some people may prefer to avoid or further minimize exposure. Some common sense steps to help reduce possible exposure to pesticides include:

- remain indoors during the application to the immediate area (please remain inside for 15-20 minutes, or longer at your discretion).
- Close street-facing windows and turn off the outside setting on window-unit air conditioners when spraying is taking place in the immediate area (you may open windows and activate AC units 15-20 minutes after the application, or longer at your discretion).
- Do not let children play near or behind truck-mounted applicators when they are in use (pets should be brought inside if possible or their cages covered to allow a wider application to be performed).
- People who suffer from chemical sensitivities or feel spraying may aggravate a preexisting health condition may consult their physician or local health department and take special measures to avoid exposure.
- Property exclusions at Request for Exclusion from Wide Area Application of Pesticides: <https://www.mass.gov/.../request-for-exclusion-from-wide...>
- For more information and tips on how to protect you and your loved ones from mosquito bites, go to: <https://www.devensec.com/news.html>

