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**CHARLES RIVER CONSERVANCY WORKING WITH GENZYME TO
RESTORE ALLSTON RIVERBANK**

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – November 9, 2010 – The Charles River Conservancy is working closely with the Genzyme Corporation to restore a long-neglected stretch of the Charles River Parklands in Allston. In coordination with the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), the Conservancy’s Volunteer program organized two large events, bringing Genzyme employees out to remove a massive amount of invasive bittersweet and buckthorn, prune parkland trees and clear downed limbs on the shoreline between the Western Avenue and River Street bridges. ([pictures on Facebook](#))

Genzyme has made a commitment to the Charles River Conservancy through their “GIVE” program to act as Stewards of this narrow but highly visible section of the Parklands directly in front of their manufacturing plant in Allston. Their generous sponsorship and employee commitment will help ensure that this restoration project can continue. Sandra Poole, Genzyme Allston’s site head, explained, “Ensuring a safe, healthy and environmentally responsible operation is foundational for everything we do here in Allston. We want to foster a culture where these aspects of our operations are on the forefront of people’s minds at all times. This not only applies here inside the plant, but to our surroundings as well.” Future volunteer events to replant and enhance the riverbank are currently in the planning phases.

Since 2000, the **Charles River Conservancy** has dedicated its efforts to the stewardship and renewal of the DCR-owned parklands from Boston Harbor to the Watertown Dam. Conservancy programs include advocating for the Parklands, overseeing the work of some 2,500 volunteers annually, returning public swimming to the river, building a skate park, restoring pathways, pruning and planting trees, hosting free Sunday Parkland Games with yoga and dancing, hosting public TV shows and providing education about the Parklands.