23 Accomplishments of 2023

1. GreenRoots designed, constructed and opened our Teaching Kitchen!

2. GreenRoots’ Caminatos Verdes expanded its reach and capacity with 30 participants and additional weeks of programming!

3. Secured a major vote of the Chelsea City Council for our Community Microgrid, resulting in funding and support for this energy resilience model!

4. Our Food Justice Team fully renovated the Suffolk Street Garden with vast community support!

5. We planted 50 additional trees, with the City of Chelsea, and expanded our Tree Keeper program by adding 15 new households!

6. Organized a campaign advocating for the State’s swift approval of Chelsea’s Energy Aggregation Plan to save ratepayers hundreds of dollars annually. GreenRoots and community leaders delivered 400 petitions to the MA DPU in support of this effort.

7. Fostered deeper relationships with Native communities with whom we are working on waterfront access and restoration, Native plantings and connectivity to the land.

8. Exposed MA DOT for not addressing lead paint chips falling in Chelsea neighborhoods. Secured temporary solutions; and forced the state to expedite full lead paint removal which began in Nov. 2023!

9. Collaborated with Chelsea Housing Authority and the Tenants Association to begin renovating the Mace Community Garden.

10. Prioritized organization sustainability and wellness through initiatives such as our sabbatical policy, restructuring and ensuring we are always grounded in community and true to our values.

11. Opposed the construction of the Eversource Substation in Eastie through protests, arrests and legal appeals to the MA Supreme Judicial Court (SJC). The SJC will take up the case in early 2024.
# Accomplishments of 2023

12. GreenRoots Board, staff and members participated in leadership development, received certification, awards and recognition!

13. Developed a partnership with Northeastern University to install dozens of new air quality monitors throughout Chelsea.

14. Co-convened the MA EJ Table where we are working in partnership to advocate for policies and legislation focusing on energy siting reform, air quality and access to justice.

15. Launched a new photovoice project focusing on energy justice.

16. Supported and collaborated closely with numerous organizations and community partners.

17. GreenRoots is co-leading a national pilot with the US EPA on a cumulative impact analysis. This national pilot is focusing on Chelsea.

18. GreenRoots organized more than 50 community meetings, events, celebrations, plantings, tours and more to build community and advance environmental justice.

19. The ECO Youth Crew organized bike tours, movie nights, teen events and are leading campaigns and initiatives focusing on youth spaces! Their work was featured on national news outlets.

20. Grew and harvested over 3,500lb of fresh produce at our urban growing spaces, which was distributed weekly to Chelsea and East Boston families.

21. Advanced a community-led effort to secure the Forbes Site along the Chelsea Creek.

22. Furthered our Cool Block Initiative goals by securing commitments from the City of Chelsea to preserve 212 Congress Avenue as a permanent park with cooling features.

23. Secured funding for critically important restoration of and public access along the Mill Creek and Island End River.