**PRESS RELEASE FROM CITY OF HAVERHILL**

**Contact:** Vinny Ouellette, Director of Human Services, 978-374-2388 extension 28

**RE**: 2016 City of Haverhill Earth Day Cleanup

**HAVERHILL** – March 16, 2016– The City’s Annual Earth Day Cleanup event is almost here. This year’s theme, **‘Do Good in Your Neighborhood’** will focus on public spaces in the city’s various neighborhoods in need of sprucing up. This may include sidewalks, roadsides and parks. The cleanup event will take place on Saturday, April 23, 2016, from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm, beginning at the Citizens Center at 10 Welcome Street, Haverhill. Volunteers are strongly encouraged to meet at the Citizens Center first at 8:30am for a brief kick-off, remarks from the Mayor, and to pick up t-shirts, trash bags and snacks for your group. The cleanup will take place from 9am-1pm.

The Citizens Center will serve as the registration and information center for the event. Trash bags, leaf bags and refreshments will be available for the duration of the event. Volunteers can organize their own neighborhood or park cleanup or can join in another identified cleanup site. All of the cleanup locations are on City property, which includes roadsides. Trash should be put into plastic trash bags, leaves and other yard waste should be put into leaf bags, branches should be stacked in piles, and sand should be swept into piles and left on the street for pick up.

Mayor James J. Fiorentini said, “This is a wonderful community event. This year’s emphasis on neighborhoods gives residents an opportunity to work with their neighbors to help make our city neighborhoods cleaner by working together to achieve this common goal. I want to thank all of the sponsors who support the event as well as the residents who participate.”

Volunteers and the City of Haverhill have been holding this annual event for at least twenty years. Major sponsors include: Mayor Fiorentini and the City of Haverhill, Haverhill’s Brightside, the Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce, Haverhill Bank, Pentucket Bank, Covanta, Magellan Aerospace, Spring Hill Natural Water, Cedar’s Mediterranean Food, Inc., Starbucks, Haverhill Beef, Heav’nly Donuts, the Peddler’s Daughter, Justine Maguire of Keller Williams Realty|North Shore Realty Group, and the Law Office of Thomas J. Sullivan.

Volunteers are encouraged to register online by searching <https://www.activityreg.com/ClientPage_t1.wcs?clientid=HAV&siteid=1>, which will bring you to the Haverhill Recreation page. Under the ‘Register’ tab, click on ‘programs or activities.’ Select ‘Special Events’ and look for ‘2016 City of Haverhill Earth Day Cleanup.’ Follow the prompts to sign up to volunteer. For questions, please call 978-374-2388 extension 28 or email Dave at ickylabrode@verizon.net.

Remember, every effort counts! You can help us keep Haverhill clean by organizing your own neighborhood cleanup! We can help you by providing trash bags and trash pickup by the City.