

Bowmanville is turning GREEN

The Bowmanville Community Organization (BCO) is a volunteer group committed to maintaining and improving the quality of life for Bowmanville residents. Since its inception in 1987, the BCO has created a solid foundation of service and neighborliness within the community. The BCO has engaged in large and small endeavors to preserve a high quality of urban living for over 1,500 households.

In 2008, the organization created the BCO GreenSpace Chicago Committee with the mission to secure and preserve permanent open space within the Bowmanville community.

In 2009, the house and lot at 5384 North Bowmanville was put up for sale. Adjacent to that parcel, from approximately 5344 to 5382 North Bowmanville, lies a portion of mostly open land approximately 2.5 acres in size, which is currently owned by Rosehill Cemetery, SCI Corp. Securing these two pieces of land has been identified as the initial goal — Phase I and Phase II respectively — of the GreenSpace Committee.



In July 2010, the BCO proudly announced the successful acquisition of the property at 5384 North Bowmanville, completing Phase I of our GreenSpace Initiative. Funding for the purchase of this property was made possible through the generous support of the City of Chicago and Corlands, a division of Openlands. Demolition of the house at 5384 North Bowmanville took place in September 2010, making way for development of the community's new greenspace. The property is currently being developed through volunteer efforts and fundraising within the community.



July 2010 — The 5384 North Bowmanville property was acquired for the Bowmanville community through the City of Chicago and Corlands, a division of Openlands.



September 2010 – October 2011 — Demolition of the structure was completed, soil was tested and weed trees removed; community volunteers raised more than \$20,000 to develop the land.



Summer 2012 — The community's plan begins to take shape: an ornamental fence has been installed, berms have been created, and other features have been scheduled for installation.

To find out more, please contact greenspace@bcochicago.org or call the BCO Hotline at 1-866-837-1006. Contributions can be made to BCO GreenSpace Chicago at 5361 North Bowmanville Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625-1008. You can also Donate Online! Simply go to www.bcochicago.org and follow the links to make a gift.

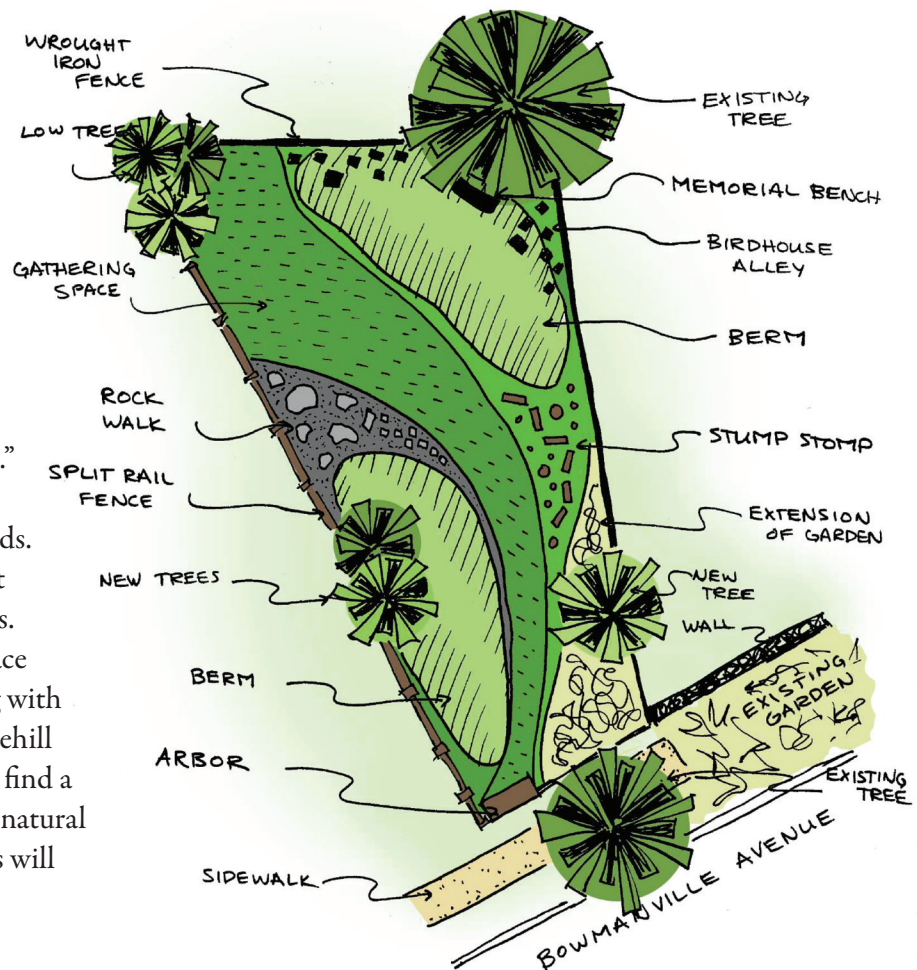
Phase I Community Planning and Development



Neighbors gathered to help plan the development of the land at 5384 North Bowmanville Avenue.



Neighborhood input has been invaluable in preparing the conceptual design for the green space at 5384 North Bowmanville Avenue. Through neighbors' suggestions and discussion at our two charrettes (brainstorming sessions), we have developed an overall concept of a "Neighborhood Yard." Much like your own backyard, it serves multiple purposes and moods. It serves as a natural playscape that is appealing to all ages and abilities. It expands and preserves green space within the community, in keeping with the pastoral tranquility of the Rosehill Cemetery setting. Neighbors will find a place for quiet reflection amidst a natural habitat where birds and butterflies will also find a home.



Phase II Fundraising and Acquisition Planning

The GreenSpace Committee is actively engaged in securing the open land along Bowmanville Avenue, which has been identified as Phase II of our Greenspace Initiative. **It is our goal to preserve the current open space and protect the land from commercial development.** The land is an irreplaceable asset that the Bowmanville community already enjoys. It is our mission to maintain this property as an urban oasis for all residents to enjoy, for generations to come.

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Bowmanville is turning GREEN... thanks to your support!



May 30, 2009 at Bowmanville's Gateway Garden: U.S. Congressman Mike Quigley toured the neighborhood and provided early critical support for the community's GreenSpace Initiative.



Bowmanville Kids' lemonade stand raised funds for greenspace at the 2010 Garden Walk and other summer events.

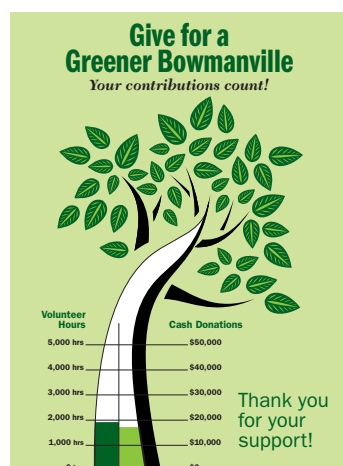


Greenspace supporters **40th Ward Alderman Patrick J. O'Connor** (left), **U.S. Congressman Mike Quigley** (center) and **Illinois State Senator Heather Steans** (right) were on hand at the kickoff of the BCO GreenSpace Fundraising Campaign at the community's annual Ice Cream Social in August 2010.



Fundraising for GreenSpace Through the Seasons: (above, left to right) The GreenSpace Committee launched a **scooter raffle** at the BCO Fall Festival in October 2010 to raise needed funds for the community's new greenspace. Raffle ticket sales were brisk at Lincoln Square's Christkindl Market in December. The winning ticket was drawn at the BCO's Open Meeting in March 2011. The BCO's GreenSpace and Gardening Committees joined forces at the **2011 Fall Festival** to raise funds through the sale of spring flowering bulbs and locally produced honey. Neighbors and friends couldn't resist hamming it up for greenspace during **HamBINGO**, a fundraising extravaganza held at Hamburger Mary's on January 2, 2012.

We need your continued support to complete Phase I



Since June 2010, more than **\$20,000 has been raised** and **2,000 volunteer hours** have been logged on behalf of Bowmanville's new community greenspace

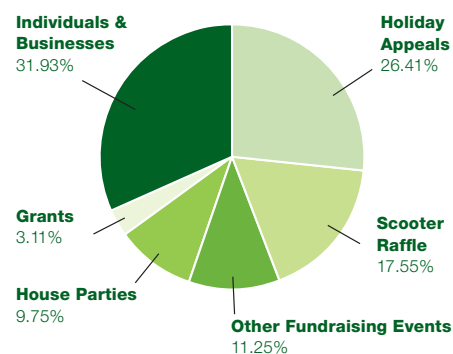
Your help is essential to complete the transformation of our new green space into an enduring haven for people, plants and wildlife. Please help us develop and maintain the land we have acquired by contributing to our goal of \$50,000 and 5,000 community service hours. Each contribution is tax deductible through our partnership with the Friends of the Parks, acting as our fiscal agent.

We are seeking \$25,000 in cash and in-kind donations to fund the development of our new greenspace — a paved grass walkway, the rock walk and stump stomp for kids of all ages, benches for relaxation, and native plantings.

Please donate online or call the BCO Hotline today to find out how you can help turn Bowmanville green!

GreenSpace Fundraising

June 2010 - January 2012



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Chicago's Bowmanville Community



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The **Bowmanville Community Organization (BCO)** is established as a not-for-profit corporation under the General Not for Profit Act of Illinois. The BCO is a non-partisan, non-sectarian, not-for-profit civic organization, providing an important communication link within the community and with local officials and other organizations to ensure that the interests of the members of the community are being addressed.



Friends of the Parks (FOTP) is a 501(c)(3) designated park advocacy organization, dedicated to preserving, protecting, and improving Chicago's parks and forest preserves for all citizens. Contributions made in support of BCO GreenSpace Chicago programming are fully tax deductible through the BCO's partnership with Friends of the Parks.



NeighborSpace

NeighborSpace helps community groups protect and secure their community garden or park from potential development, and works in concert with many private and public partners — including the City of Chicago and Chicago Park District — to preserve and expand community managed open space in Chicago. NeighborSpace has been instrumental in the ongoing development of Bowmanville's award-winning community gardens.



openlands
 conserving nature for life

Founded in 1963, **Openlands** protects the natural and open spaces of northeastern Illinois and the surrounding region to ensure cleaner air and water, protect natural habitats and wildlife, and help balance and enrich our lives. Openlands was instrumental in helping the BCO secure the property at 5384 North Bowmanville by providing legal and financial guidance.

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