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Press Release

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FIRST SWIMMING RACE TO BE HELD IN THE CHARLES RIVER

BOSTON, MA, September 5, 2006 – The inaugural Charles River One Mile Swim will be held in the Charles River on Saturday, September 9, 2006. This milestone event will be the nation's first freshwater river race to be held in the downtown section of a major U.S. city. The race will start and finish at the newly reconstructed Esplanade River Dock near the Hatch Memorial Shell and follow a loop course between the Harvard Bridge and the Longfellow Bridge.

The race was conceived and organized by the Charles River Swimming Club as a way to celebrate the decades of effort that have gone into rehabilitating the Charles River. Race organizers caution that public swimming is still years away and that the race is being conducted with special precautions in place. It is possible that the race will have to be cancelled if weather or water conditions are unsuitable for swimming. Participants and spectators are advised to check the club's website the day before the race at www.charlesriverswimmingclub.org

One hundred experienced swimmers from as far away as California are signed up to compete in the race, which is sanctioned by United States Masters Swimming. Spectators will be able to watch the race from the Esplanade.

Partners and sponsors of the race include the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), smartwater, Charles River Canoe and Kayak, Community Boating Inc., A Better City, MBTA Advisory Board, Charles River Apparel, The Charles River Institute for Healing and the Inner Arts, and Cornerstone Properties.

The Charles River Swimming Club is a non-profit organization working for the return of recreational swimming to the Charles River. More about the Charles River One Mile Swim as well as the Charles River Swimming Club and its mission can be found at www.charlesriverswimmingclub.org.

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