



Wrapping up Earth Month with Bikes Not Bombs

Programs Update:

We are still accepting applications for Spring 2021 Sisters In Action!



We are still accepting applications for our spring session of [Sisters In Action](#). The program will run from May 18th to June 17th, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-7 PM.

Sisters In Action is a safe space for all girls (12+), femmes, trans people, womxn, and gender non-conforming people to learn bike mechanics, make friends, get active, and earn a bike of their own. We look forward to reviewing your application (or you can [forward the application](#) to friends and family).

Spotlight on Recycling



“Recycling is the backbone of everything we do. It is the foundation of Bikes Not Bombs’ programs.”
- Sco Thelemaque, Recycling & Sales Specialist

As we wrap up Earth Month, we would like to celebrate and highlight the importance of our bicycle recycling department and its programs. “It is because of bike recycling that we can help our planet, send bikes to other countries, people can turn parts into new machines, and we have bikes to sell,” says Hamza Mahamud, one of our Youth Apprentices working in the recycling department. Hamza assists BNB with all aspects of recycling, starting with collections, bicycle and parts sorting, and distribution. For example, with Hamza’s help, we were able to send 442 bicycles to Rwanda earlier this April.



Sco, Recycling & Sales Specialist collecting bikes during the Dedham Recycle Day on April 24th

Collections

The first step in the process is *collections*. We collect bikes, parts, and supplies in many different ways. Members of our community can host bike drives to collect up to 200 bicycles at a time! Depending on the location and quantity, we also do pickups in Greater Boston and surrounding towns or cities. There’s a good chance that the BNB box truck has driven through your area! Of course, we also accept drop off donations at our Hub & Bike Shop location at [284 Amory St.](#) in Jamaica Plain.

Sorting

After we’ve collected the bikes, the next step in the process is sorting. First, all bicycles and parts are inspected for damage or excessive wear. Many bicycles are stripped for usable parts.



Distribution

If the bikes and parts can be used in any way, they are tagged for a specific program. This brings us to the final step of the process, distribution. Certain types of bikes and parts are better suited for our Bike School programs or bike shop, while others, such as mountain bikes, may suit the needs of our international partners due to rugged terrain and the need to carry supplies or tools while traveling.

“There are many moving parts,” describes Hamza. “Bike recycling has taught me a lot about organizing, inventory, having different work stations, and working efficiently.” Hamza is interested in entrepreneurship; someday, he would like to take his learned knowledge of warehouse operations to start his own business.



Hamza Mahamud, Youth Apprentice

Bikes Not Bombs is proud to be the premier bike recycler in the Greater Boston area. It takes a lot to make the program run smoothly, and your donations matter more than ever. Whether you donate bicycles, parts, supplies, or even containers to store the parts, we'll almost certainly make use of it.

If you are interested in hosting your own bike drive or scheduling a pick up, please contact Eric Mearns, Bike Collections Consultant at eric@bikesnotbombs.org.

If you are interested in general donations or volunteering in our recycling center, contact Martinas Andrius, Director of Recycling & Operations at martinas@bikesnotbombs.org.

New from the Bike Shop

Brand Highlight: Kryptonite

Based in Massachusetts, Kryptonite makes some of the best locks in the market. They are a household name in bike security; Kryptonite is also a strong supporter of BNB and regularly donates locks to our programs. We appreciate the generosity of this local organization!



We stock a variety of u-locks as well as lighter-security options.



"The Krptolok model is my pick for good security for the value and size. Plus, the blue matches my bike!"
- Rob Cant, Training & Sales Manager

Note Regarding Bicycle Availability

Our bike inventory continues to be limited. Worldwide, there is an extreme shortage of bikes, and that is true at Bikes Not Bombs as well. Two new hires will help us better meet this demand, but we encourage customers to call ahead or visit [our online shop](#) to check availability.

Ride for Black Lives V End the War on Drugs and Mass Incarceration



Approximately 350 riders pedaled in solidarity at the fifth edition of the Ride for Black Lives. View our short recap [video](#) (1 min 35 sec.) accompanied by remarks from Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (D-MA).

Save the Date - Ride for Black Lives VI

Volunteer Highlight Tess Stogner



*Tess Stogner
April 2021 Volunteer of the Month
Volunteer Mechanic Apprentice*

Tess Stogner is our Volunteer of the Month. She has been volunteering as a Mechanic Apprentice every Wednesday. Tess also mentors other volunteers at the shop and has been extremely helpful for our regular operations.

"I love coming into BNB every week; I always learn something new and feel lucky get to know some incredible people who are eager to share their passions with our community."

If you are interested in volunteering, we offer six unique volunteer apprenticeships as well as drop in opportunities for special events and programs. If you are interested in becoming a Volunteer Apprentice, please visit the [Volunteer Opportunities](#) section of our website.

Chain Reaction at the Dewitt Center

Our first pop up bike repair station of the year was kicked off in collaboration with the Boston Cyclists Union and Madison Park Development Corporation (MPDC).

We were able to provide Roxbury residents with free bike repair, and vouchers for bicycles. We also brought some BNB swag with us; check out the smile on this little guy!

Our pop up repair service, Chain Reaction, is run primarily by Youth Apprentices working at Bikes Not Bombs as a part of our Bicyclists Organizing for Community Action (BOCA) program. More to come!



We're Hiring!

bikesnotbombs.org/careers



Bikes Not Bombs is looking to expand its team in order to meet the growing demand for refurbished bicycles and our programs! Check our [careers page](#) for more information.

**Donate to Bikes Not Bombs
for continued success in 2021!**

Connect with us:



Our Contact Information

Bikes Not Bombs
284 Amory Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
617.522.0222
<http://bikesnotbombs.org>

Bike Shop & Training Center Hours:

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 12pm - 7pm
Wednesday: 12pm - 7pm
Thursday: 12pm - 7pm
Friday: 12pm - 7pm
Saturday: 11am - 5pm
Sunday: Closed