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LOCAL NEWS

Popular botanic garden in Massachusetts calls federal grant cut "devastating"

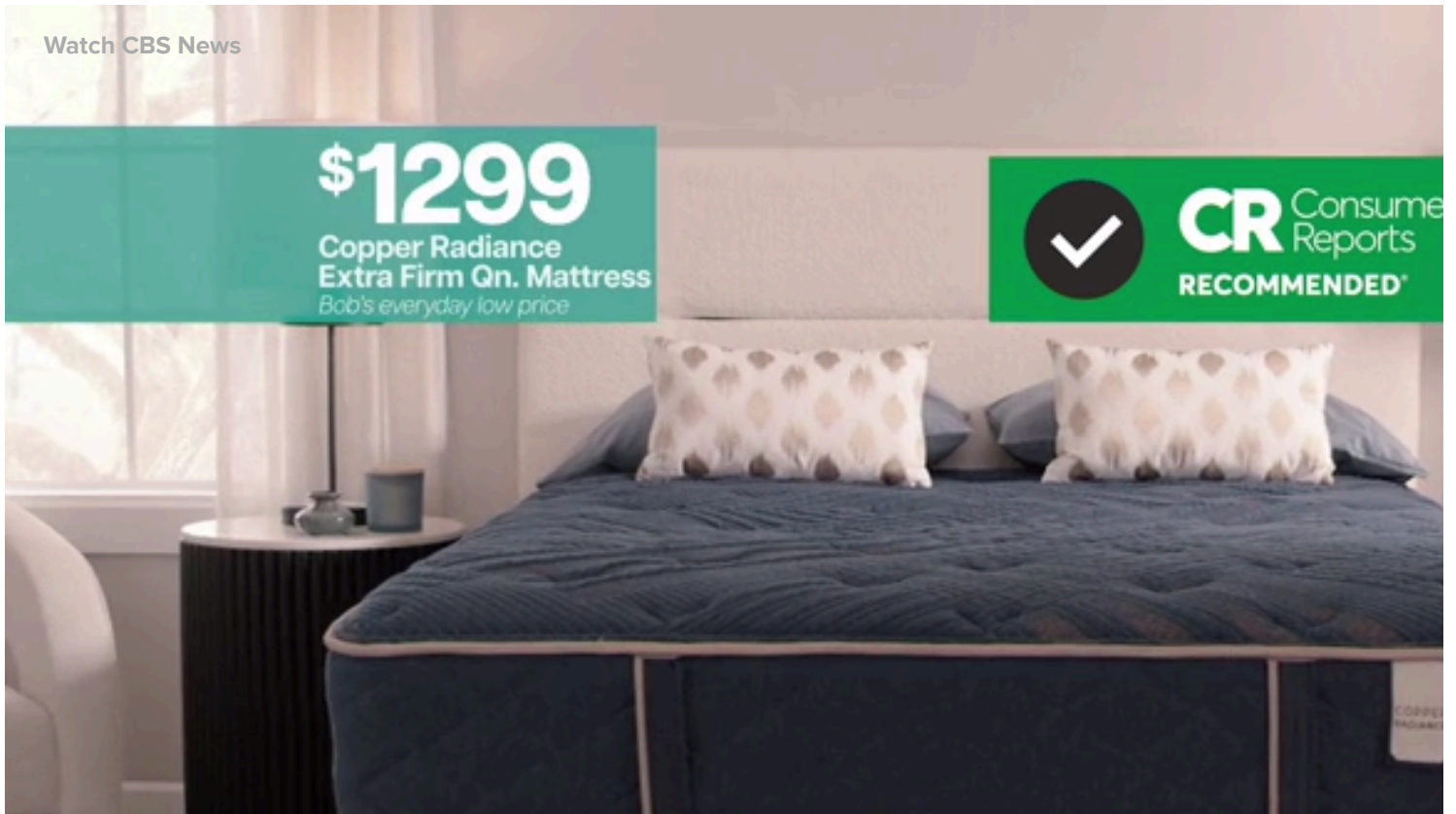
**WBZ
NEWS**

By Neal Riley
April 23, 2025 / 4:36 PM EDT / CBS Boston



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A popular destination for flower lovers in central Massachusetts says it has suffered a "devastating" federal grant cut. The New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill in Boylston found out last week that a \$250,000 grant has been canceled, the CEO says.

The three-year "Museums for America" grant came from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency that was the target of an executive order from President Trump. The garden intended to use the money to hire a full-time



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lton said in a statement. "We
community and our elected

weeks ago, nearly all employees
ve order from Mr. Trump
entities to be reduced to "the

minimum presence" after Department of Government Efficiency employees were spotted in the IMLS building.

Museums and libraries affected by federal cuts

The IMLS awarded \$267 million in grants across the country last year. Elton said "We are concerned not only for our garden but for cultural institutions across the state and country that face similar grant terminations."

AD

The Museum of African-American History Boston and Nantucket told WBZ-TV earlier this month it is concerned about its future after a \$500,000, three-year grant from the IMLS was cut because "we no longer align with the White House



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week it found out that a grant money was being used potential poet.

grant is unfortunately no no longer serves the interest of the United States and the IMLS Program," the museum posted to Facebook.

The New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill

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The New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill is a 200-acre space with conservatories, hiking trails and meadows that welcomes more than 200,000 visitors a year. One of the more popular spring displays is a daffodil exhibit that features more than 25,000 flowers.



In 2023, Tower Hill was named the best botanical garden in the U.S. by Travel Awaits.

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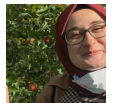
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has been with WBZ-TV since 2014. San Francisco Chronicle. Neal is a

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