

ECA Newsletter

February 2020

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2020 ECA Dues

Thank you to all neighborhood families who supported the ECA in 2019 by paying the modest annual ECA dues of \$25. Without your support, the ECA could not do all the things it does to support the neighborhood and community. I hope you'll continue to support the ECA in 2020. If you do, you will receive a copy of the 2020 ECA Neighborhood Directory in the mail in the late spring, continued access to the Online Neighborhood Directory, and you'll be eligible to vote in ECA elections every other October.

As usual, we will be sending out letters in a few weeks asking residents to renew their support for the ECA by paying dues for this year. But, if you pay your dues now, you'll save us the cost and effort of mailing a letter.

The easiest way to pay dues is to visit the ECA website, where you can use a credit card, debit card, PayPal, or Venmo. Go [HERE](#) and follow the simple instructions in the orange box to "Renew." If you were not an ECA supporter last year, follow the instructions in the green box. (If you can't remember whether you paid dues last year, don't worry – just use the orange "Renew" box.) After you complete the transaction, you'll be reminded to update your household information for the ECA Neighborhood Directory and asked if you are interested in volunteering to help out with ECA-sponsored activities.

If you prefer to pay your dues by mail, you can print out a dues renewal form, fill it out, and mail it in with your payment. [CLICK HERE](#) for a copy of the form.

Please consider taking a moment now to make your dues payment.

ECA Board Changes

ECA Treasurer Josh Perelman has resigned from the ECA Board of Directors. Many thanks to Josh for his years of service to the community.

As you may know, Board members serve two year terms, and are elected by the general membership at the October meeting every odd-numbered year. When a Board position becomes vacant, the Board may appoint someone to serve out the remainder of the term until the next election takes place. At its January meeting, the Board appointed ECA Vice President Jeffery Drichta to serve out the remainder of the term as Treasurer until October 2021. Jeffrey resigned as Vice President to accept the appointment.

At this time, the ECA Vice President position remains vacant. If the Board appoints someone to fill the position before the end of this term, I'll pass on that news.

Neighborhood Traffic Studies

At the ECA's request, Montgomery County Department of Transportation recently conducted several traffic safety studies in the neighborhood. I've reported on these in previous ECA Newsletters. DOT has completed the studies, and their analysis supported many of the safety concerns we raised. They have agreed to make several improvements:

- MCDOT agreed that the existing double yellow line striping along Elm Street between Clarendon and Arlington Roads does not provide adequate room for cars traveling west to avoid legally parked cars along the north side of Elm. Therefore, they will move the double yellow line approximately 4.5 feet to the south. This should be completed by June 2020, if not sooner, weather and schedule permitting.
- After evaluating traffic volume and patterns, and reviewing police accident data for 5 different intersections in the neighborhood where approaching vehicles from two directions have stop signs and vehicles approaching from the other two directions do not stop. MCDOT concluded that 4-way stop signs are warranted for two of those intersections, at Hampden Lane/Fairfax Road and at Hampden Lane/Exeter Road. To install 4-way stops there will require some additional work orders and approvals, and they promised to keep us informed of the progress. Although they concluded that 4-way stops are not needed at the other three intersections (Moorland Lane/Glenbrook Road, Moorland Lane/Exeter Road, and Hampden Lane/Denton Road), they will install additional signage at those intersections to warn drivers when oncoming cross-traffic does not stop.
- After conducting a speed study and reviewing police crash history of the southbound section of Fairfax Road between Manning Drive and Bradley Boulevard, MCDOT concluded that speed humps or other traffic calming measures cannot be installed in that section of the roadway.

Thanks again to ECA Board Member Jeffrey Drichta for his diligence in working with MCDOT on these issues. I will keep you informed of future developments.

Edgemoor Tip of the Month – Composting

We've all heard of the 3 R's of the Environment: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. I'm not sure that composting is reducing, reusing, or recycling, but I do know experts say that around a quarter of material that usually ends up in landfills (including yard waste and kitchen scraps) could be composted.

Home composting requires a little effort, but it's not as much work as you might think to turn trash into nutrient-rich compost. There are many resources available through Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, including workshops, videos, and online information, starting [HERE](#). They also provide free compost bins for homeowners. There are plenty of other sources available online, including [THIS ONE](#) on home composting basics.

You say you don't have the time or energy for all that? What about a composting service that will do most of the work for you? There are several of them in the area that will collect compostable waste from your home and turn it into high-nutrient compost for your garden. [COMPOST CREW](#), a local composting business started by two Whitman HS grads, will even give Edgemoor residents a 40% discount on monthly or yearly residential plans by typing the word EDGEMOORCOMPOSTS (all caps) into the coupon code.

The ECA Newsletter is a compilation of information relevant to Edgemoor area residents. It is distributed on an occasional basis on the EC-Net email list.