

# **ECA Newsletter**

**May 2018**

## Topics in This Issue

1. ECA Spring Members' Meeting
2. Marriott Headquarters Construction
3. Community Meeting - Capital Crescent Trail Crossing at Little Falls Parkway
4. Political Message and EC-Net
5. Primary Election
6. Rodent Control and Dog Safety
7. Edgemoor Tip of the Day – Report Streetlight Outages

## ECA Spring Members' Meeting

The spring ECA Members' Meeting was held on May 14 at the Connie Morella Library. Severe thunderstorms in the area at that time reduced turnout, but we still had a few hearty neighbors who came. You can find a brief report of the meeting along with other ECA reports and documents on the Resources and Links page of the ECA Website (<http://www.edgemoorcitizens.org/resourcesandlinks.html>).

## Marriott Headquarters Construction

Construction activity at the new Marriott Headquarters site is starting to heat up, with underground utility work is scheduled to begin May 30 and last two months. During that time, there will be periodic and sidewalk and lane closures, including southbound Wisconsin Avenue, as well as Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues. Signage will be placed around the work site during any closures. Drivers and pedestrians are encouraged to seek alternate routes throughout this work period. There will also be no signaled pedestrian crossing over Wisconsin Avenue between Norfolk Avenue and Old Georgetown Road. Demolition is scheduled to begin June 18 and last approximately eight weeks. During that time, some sidewalks and traffic lanes in the area will be closed. Construction is scheduled to begin in July and last for three years, and additional work on the interior of the building may continue for an additional year. For more information, and to sign up for email updates, visit Marriott's Downtown Bethesda website (<http://www.mhqbethesda.com/>).

## Community Meeting - Capital Crescent Trail Crossing at Little Falls Parkway

In January 2017, Montgomery County Parks made temporary changes to the travel lanes approaching both sides of the intersection of the Capital Crescent Trail and Little Falls Parkway. They installed high-visibility flexible bollards to reduce the roadway from four lanes to two approaching the crossing, as well as additional safety signage at the trail. The long-term goal, however, is to have a permanent, safer crossing for all trail users while minimizing vehicle delay, construction/operations costs, and environmental impacts. The County has retained a consultant to conduct a study and develop alternatives. They are currently reviewing design records, traffic counts, crash data, and field surveys.

A community meeting will be held at Somerset Elementary School on June 13 at 7:00 PM to introduce the project and present alternatives. For more information, visit the County's website (<https://www.montgomeryparks.org/projects/directory/capital-crescent-trail-crossing-at-little-falls-parkway/>).

### Political Messages on EC-Net

As we approach Primary Election Day (and then the General Election), there is a lot of interest and discussion about the candidates and the races. Please remember that partisan political messages are prohibited on the ECA's email group, EC-Net. This is to ensure that members of the email group are not inundated with political messages. It is also to respect the diversity of our neighborhood by making sure that the ECA does not give the appearance of favoring any candidate or party. Of course, non-partisan announcements about political events, such as full-field debates or forums are permitted.

This prohibition applies not only to explicit candidate endorsements, but to any message that has the effect of giving publicity or visibility to a particular candidates or party. As the main moderator of the email group, I have rejected several messages that, without appearing overtly political, nevertheless highlight a specific candidate's campaign.

If you would like to send political messages to your neighbors, you might consider trying Nextdoor's Edgemoor email group ([www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)). They allow political postings (although there are some restrictions, and postings are moderated), including:

- Discussing local ballot measures or elections in a civil and respectful manner.
- Introducing yourself once if you are running for local public office.
- Posting local politics-related events in the Events calendar, like voter registration drives or information sessions about local political topics.

### Primary Election – June 26

Speaking of the Primary Election, I've added some information and links about the upcoming election (including links to proofs of the actual primary ballots --

Democratic, Republican, and Non-Partisan) to the ECA website (<http://www.edgemoorcitizens.org/resourcesandlinks.html>). I hope you find them helpful.

Remember that, to vote in the 2018 Primary Election, you have until June 5 to register, or to update your registration (including changing your party affiliation).

To register to vote, you must be a U.S. citizen, live in Montgomery County, and be at least 18 years of age on or before November 6, 2018. For more information or to register or change your registration, visit the Board of Elections website ([www.777vote.org](http://www.777vote.org)).

### Rodent Control and Dog Safety

An ECA member contacted me a couple of weeks ago after her dog was injured when it ate a block of rat poison during a walk through the neighborhood. After emergency treatment, the dog recovered, but the owner wanted to help prevent the same thing happening to other dogs.

Montgomery County provides guidelines for homeowners when using rodent control poisons on their own property (<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs-special/LandREnviroHealthVectorControl.html>). These include making sure to place the poison ("bait blocks," which usually look like small, green 1-2" cubes) in an appropriate bait station – a housing designed to prevent other animals and children from coming in contact with the bait. So, if you are a homeowner and you use rodent poison on your property, please do so responsibly.

In addition, if you are a dog owner, remember to keep your dog on a leash at all times when off your own property, for your dog's own safety.

### Edgemoor Tip of the Day – Report Streetlight Outages

Is there a streetlight out or malfunctioning on your block? There is a very easy and effective way to report it to PEPCO. I tried it, reporting a light out on Clarendon this past Monday. I got an immediate email response confirming the report. PEPCO repaired it the very next day, and sent a second email confirming that the repair had been completed. Just go to the special light pole website (<https://pepco.streetlightoutages.com/map/default.html?a=db>). You'll see a map of the area. Zoom in to the street with the light problem, and you'll see every light pole identified on the map. Click on the problem light, and follow the simple instructions. That's it. Note that you won't see the light poles on the map until you've zoomed in to the street level. (There are over 111,000 poles on the whole map.) Of course, you can also report by phone. You'll need to write down the Pole Number (which can be found on a label on the pole) and call PEPCO at 202-833-7500.

Do you have a tip you'd like to share with your neighbors? Please email me your suggestions ([president@edgemoorcitizens.org](mailto:president@edgemoorcitizens.org))

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