

ECA Newsletter

April 2023

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1. 2023 ECA Dues – Final Email Reminder

If you already paid your voluntary annual dues for 2023.....Thank You. Your contributions make the ECA possible.

The ECA Board will be mailing out the final dues reminder letters next week to all the households who have not made a 2023 dues payment. So, this is the last chance to save us the time and cost of printing and mailing the letter. Just visit the ECA website [HERE](#). There are easy instructions for using different payment methods (credit card, PayPal, Apple Pay, Venmo, or personal check).

2. ECA Spring Social and Members Meeting

As noted in a previous message, the 2023 ECA Spring Social and Members Meeting will be at the Edgemoor Club on Wednesday, May 3 starting at 6:00 PM. We will start with a social hour from 6:00 until 7:00 with drinks and light food provided by the ECA. The meeting itself will start at 7:00 and last no more than an hour. After that we will continue the social portion of the evening until 9:00.

Our guests will be Eli Glazier and David Anspacher from Montgomery Planning. They will talk and take questions about the County's draft [Pedestrian Master Plan](#) and [Bicycle Master Plan](#). Click on the links to learn more about these plans. Then bring you questions to the meeting.

The event is free and open to all ECA members (that is, all adults who live in the [neighborhood served by the ECA](#)).

3. Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Ban Update

After holding a public hearing last fall, the Montgomery Council continues to refine its proposed ban on gas-powered leaf blowers. A few things still have to happen before a ban could go into effect, with new regulations expected to be published in September 2024, going into effect 6 months later. For details, see the MoCo 360 article, [HERE](#).

4. Residential Development in Downtown Bethesda

We've all probably experienced firsthand the impact of the many construction projects in downtown Bethesda. Urban Turf, an online publication that covers the DC area real estate news, recently published an article describing, in detail, 21 new residential real estate developments planned or underway in downtown Bethesda. You can find the article [HERE](#).

5. Bethesda Market Park Update

One of the residential development projects mentioned in the article cited above is the Bethesda Farm Women's Market site on Wisconsin Ave. A part of that project is the design and construction of the Bethesda Market Park – effectively an expansion of Elm Street Urban Park in the area now occupied by the parking lots behind the Market. Montgomery Parks is seeking public input on the project with a survey. They presented their preliminary plans to two public meetings last month. You can take the survey, learn more about the project, or watch a recording of the presentation on their project website [HERE](#).

6. Street Light Malfunctions

Have you ever walked by a street light in the dark, and had the light suddenly go out (or if it was on, go out)? This has happened to me many times. I've always assumed there was some sort of sensor at work. After being contacted by a neighbor who has also experienced this phenomenon, I consulted PEPCO to find out the real story. PEPCO says that the lights are supposed to turn on when it gets dark and stay on until daylight returns. Any other behavior is a malfunction, and should be reported.

To report a light not working correctly, note the location of the pole and/or the pole number. (Take a picture with your phone. Pole numbers are either 10 or 12 digits, with a hyphen, printed on the side of the pole.) Then, go to the PEPCO street light malfunction page [HERE](#). On the map, zoom in to the location of the pole. Note that you must zoom sufficiently before the link to each pole appears. Click on that pole and follow the instructions to report the problem. You can also search by pole number using the search box at the top of the page.

7. Edgemoor Tip of the Month – Free Tech Support (That's Right...Free)

The Marylanders Online Call Center is a free service for all Marylanders under a state-funded program run by the University of Maryland Extension and the College of Information Studies. They provide FREE one-on-one tech support in English or Spanish for any device, including hardware and software. They also provide help for people applying to the Affordable Connectivity Program, information about local organizations offering various digital skills classes and other device programs, and more. The Center operates from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Monday through Friday. Call 301-405-9810 (Toll Free: 1-866-206-8467) or email them (marylandersonline@umd.edu). See their brochure [HERE](#).

Do you have a tip you'd like to share with your neighbors? Please email me your suggestions [HERE](#).

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.