

ECA Newsletter

July 2023

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1. July 4 Parade and Party

The ECA July 4 Parade and Party is just around the corner. This popular annual event is for the whole family. Dress up in patriotic costumes or colors, decorate your bikes/scooters/strollers and join the parade, which will start at the Hampden Lane dead end near Caroline Freeland Park at 9:30 AM on July 4. As usual, the parade will be led by B-CC Rescue Squad.

Parade participants will march from there behind the giant fire trucks to the Edgemoor Club (7415 Exeter Road) for an after-parade party until noon. Residents who would like to watch the parade can line the parade route by 9:30 AM - west on Hampden Lane and then turning right onto Exeter Road to the Edgemoor Club. At the Club, there will be free food, drinks, snacks, and Italian Ices, plus free activities like face painting, balloon sculptures, and caricature artistry.

For complete information, look for yesterday's email from ECA Treasurer Jeffrey Drichta. He'll be sending out at least one more message before the event.

Volunteers Needed! This event would not be possible without volunteers. If you can help with parade safety, party set-up/clean-up, and photography, please contact Jeffrey at drichtaj@mac.com.

2. Tree Removal on Edgemoor Lane

Several residents have asked why 4 large trees that were removed along Edgemoor Lane between Beverly and Denton along the border of the Sidwell Friends School. After making some inquiries, ECA Vice President Huda Montemarano learned that the Montgomery County Arborist ordered the removal of the trees, which were in the County right-of-way. Although only one of the trees had visibly deteriorated, all of them were infected with a terminal fungal disease called *Hypoxylon Canker*. There is no treatment for this condition, which occurs in many species of oaks. Infected trees

are removed to reduce the risk of spreading the disease further trees. Here is the recommendation from the [Oklahoma State University Extension](#):

“No effective means of control are available. Trees infected with Hypoxylon should be removed to prevent secondary infections on other susceptible trees. The spores from the stroma become exposed and are spread by rain and wind.”

In addition, [HERE](#) is an article from the University of Maryland Extension about problems with oak trees in Maryland thought to be impacted by recent weather extremes.

The County expects to replace the removed trees with 8-10 new ones in the same location this fall. The timeline for that is dependent on the supply of new trees available.

3. County Parking Facilities Now Require Payment on Saturday

Montgomery County-operated garages, parking lots and street meters in Downtown Bethesda and Silver Spring will begin charging for Saturday parking beginning on Saturday, July 8. The Saturday hours and rates will be the same as the existing weekday schedules. Sundays will remain free. Drivers will be able to purchase monthly parking passes valid for mornings, evenings and weekends. For more information, go [HERE](#).

4. Public Input on County Development Review Process

As noted in my June 16 email, the public is invited to two more public listening sessions (July 18, and August 2) to provide input on Montgomery County’s development review process. These public sessions are part of the newly formed Development Review Process Workgroup. You can learn more about the workgroup and its purpose in [this letter from County Executive Marc Elrich and Planning Board Chair Jeffrey Zyontz](#), as well as on [the workgroup's website](#). You can see a graphic showing the current review process [HERE](#).

The Montgomery County House Delegation, the Montgomery County Planning Board Chair and the Montgomery County Executive agreed in February to form a workgroup to examine the county’s development review process, with a special focus on economic competitiveness.

You can view a video recording of the workgroup’s June 9 meeting and the first listening session held on June 22 [HERE](#). Click on Speakers and Special Events near the bottom of the page.

To sign up to testify at one of the upcoming meetings, go [HERE](#). To submit written comments, email them to development@montgomeryplanning.org and meredith.wellington@montgomerycountymd.gov

5. Survey on Reducing/Recycling Food Waste

Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection is looking into new approaches to reducing food waste, including curbside food scrap collection and more support for backyard composting. They would like to hear your thoughts on the subject. To participate in a short, anonymous survey, go [HERE](#). The survey takes less than 5 minutes.

6. Edgemoor Tip of the Month – Mosquito Reduction Strategies

It's mosquito season.....again! Wondering what you can do to reduce the mosquito population without harming other beneficial insects and pollinators with insecticide sprays? The University of Maryland Extension just published "The 4 "E"s for Easy, Breezy, Beautiful Mosquito Source Reduction," with helpful advice for area homeowners about how to safely and effectively control mosquitos – without harming the environment. You can read the article [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.