

ECA Newsletter

November 2023

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1. Fall 2023 ECA Members Meeting and Social - Recap

This fall's ECA Members Meeting and Social took place on October 2 at the Edgemoor Club. We had a good crowd and everyone seemed to have a great time.

We held the biennial election of ECA Board members, and [all current ECA board members](#) were reelected to their positions.

Our guest speaker (MoCo Department of Environmental Protection Recycling Coordinator Alan Pultyniewicz) spoke and took questions about household recycling, composting, and trash collection. He made the subject way more interesting than anyone would expect. He had quite a few helpful hints and clarifications about what and how to recycle. Many of these are already covered in the [Trash, Recycling, and Leaf Collection page](#) of the ECA website. We will be updating that website page soon (hopefully in the next week or so) to include all of the guidance Alan provided.

Thanks to ECA Vice President Huda Montemarano and At-large Board member Alicia Tompkins for all their work organizing and running the event, and all the neighbors who pitched in to help out. Many thanks again to the Edgemoor Club, its members for allowing the ECA to use their facilities, and to club Manager Mary Gardiner for all her help.

BTW - If you have any ideas about a topic or speaker you'd like to have for the Spring meeting (probably in April), please let me know by email.

2. More Good Recycling News

Speaking of household recycling, it can be frustrating to try to figure out what's

recyclable when there are literally 9,000 different recycling communities that have different rules. Would you like an easier way to figure out whether a specific item is recyclable right here where we live? A national non-profit called the Recycling Partnership is developing a new package-specific labeling platform that will provide clear, local recycling information to consumers. When fully implemented, a QR code on the package will link to a database of local recycling instructions. You'll be able to scan an item, type in your ZIP code and see if it's eligible to go in the blue bin. Find more about it [HERE](#).

3. Metro Red Line Closures in December

According to WMATA, there will be no Red Line service between Dupont Circle and Gallery Place from Monday, December 18 through Saturday, December 30. The Farragut North and Metro Center upper-level stations will be closed. For Friday, December 22, through Sunday, December 24, the closure will be between Dupont Circle and Union Station.

See additional details and information about shuttle bus service in the [press release](#).

4. Halloween Parade and Party

The 2023 ECA Halloween Parade and Party went off without a hitch yesterday. We had a great crowd of ghouls and goblins, who paraded to the Edgemoor Club for pizza and snacks before heading off for some serious trick-or-treating:



We'll post additional pictures on the [Halloween Parade and Party page](#) of the ECA website as soon as possible. In the meantime, you'll find pictures from prior years there.

Thanks to ECA Treasurer Jeffrey Drichta for once again leading the effort to plan and hold the event and to ECA Board members Linda Wenger, Alicia Tompkins, Huda Montemarano and Bridget Foist for all their work helping out. Special thanks to our wonderful neighborhood volunteers, Rebecca Dillon, Raquel Carlos, the Korman family, Hope Lauber, and Nick and Julie Clark. Finally, once again, thanks to the Edgemoor Club and its members for allowing us to use their facilities, and to club Manager Mary Gardiner for her assistance.

5. What to Do with Leftover Halloween Candy

As she has done in the past, ECA Board member Alicia Tompkins will be collecting your unwanted Halloween candy through Sunday, Nov. 4. She donates it to Walter Reed. You can drop off wrapped, unopened candy at her home, and there will be a box by the front door at 7203 Fairfax Road.

6. Help Save the Bethesda Meeting House

The Bethesda Meeting House was built by the Bethesda Presbyterian Church in 1820 and named after the healing pool called “Bethesda” in Jerusalem. Years later, the pastor of the church petitioned for the area to take the well-known name of the church. In 1871, it did, and Bethesda was named.

Although the Bethesda Meeting House is no longer owned by the church, it’s still tucked away up a hill in North Bethesda at 9400 Rockville Pike. However, the current owners are no longer able to maintain it. The sign that once welcomed congregants to the “Church that named Bethesda” has fallen, and the building is in disrepair.

The Bethesda Historical Society is looking at options to preserve it. You can help by visiting their website [HERE](#).

If you would like to learn more about the Meeting House and the church’s colorful history, come to the 300th Anniversary of the [Bethesda Presbyterian Church](#) on Saturday November 11 from 1:00-3:00 pm at the church, 7611 Clarendon Road, next to Bethesda Elementary School at the intersection of Wilson and Clarendon. There will be a presentation by Bethesda Historical Society Secretary and Edgemoor resident Hank Levine, a display of historical artifacts, and 1941 film about the church.

7. Public Meetings on the Capital Crescent Trail

As noted in a message posted about a week ago, Montgomery Parks will hold [two upcoming meetings](#) so Capital Crescent Trail users can share their ideas for renovations to the 3.5-mile portion of the trail in Montgomery County from downtown Bethesda south to the DC line. Parks staff will describe the intent of and long-term

vision for the project and collect ideas and other feedback from the public about the future trail renovation. The presentations at both meetings will be the same:

- In person on Thursday, November 2, 7-8:30 pm, at Somerset Elementary School's all-purpose room, 5811 Warwick Place, Chevy Chase, MD; and
- On line ([Zoom](#)) Wednesday, November 8, noon-1:30 pm, 12-1:30 pm.

Registration is encouraged. Registered attendees will be updated on future project developments. [Register here](#).

8. Fall Leaf Collection Schedule

It's that time of year again. You've seen the signs posted in the neighborhood about the first Fall Leaf Collection, which will start "in a few days." What does that mean?

Although those posters do not give a specific date for the collections, residents can find the planned start date for each of the two collections by visiting the leaf collection program website [HERE](#). Our neighborhood is "3F" (Area 3, Subarea F), and the planned start date for our 1st collection is Monday, November 6. That is the earliest day that the County expects to pick up leaves in the neighborhood. The actual date may be later than that, depending on weather conditions and other factors. In previous years, our leaf collections have most often happened right on or soon after the planned start date.

There are usually two leaf collections each year. In our neighborhood, the first generally occurs during the first full week of November, and the second toward the end of November – frequently the day after Thanksgiving. You may hear or read that the second collection happens in "early December," but that has not been typical. The actual start date will be posted to the website later this month.

In the past, the county has sometimes come through and done a 3rd, unannounced, pick-up some time in December, though there is no guarantee that they will do that this year.

You can find out what the leaf-collection designation is for your area [here](#). Check the site from time to time to see if the collection date has been posted yet. You also can call 311 for estimated dates.

Do not place your leaves in the road or on a sidewalk for collection. Pile them on the lawn as close to the curb as possible.

Finally – Remember that leaves can also be collected in regular, weekly recycling collections if you place them at the curb in paper lawn bags or reusable containers.

9. Edgemoor Tip of the Month – National Museum of Women in the Arts

The [National Museum of Women in the Arts](#), the world's first major museum solely dedicated to championing women artists, reopened October 21st after a two-year, \$70 million renovation. It was a great museum before, and it's even better now. NMWA advocates for better representation of women artists, and addresses the gender imbalance in the presentation of art by bringing to light important women artists of the past while promoting great women artists working today. Even better – admission is free the first Sunday and second Wednesday of each month. The museum is at 1250 New York Ave., NW in DC, and is a short walk from Metro Center. It's open Tuesday through Sunday 10AM to 5PM. Click on the link above for more information.

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.