



The Glen Echo

Newsletter of Fairlington Glen

February/March 2009

GLEN LANDSCAPING

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After the winter lull, the Glen is gearing up for a new year. Environmental Enhancements did the last cleanup of leaves in mid-February and Thrive completed tree work. We had to remove a black oak in Court 1 that went back to the origins of Fairlington; the transplanted Zelkova Elm in Ct. 10 that, despite loving care from nearby residents, didn't make it; and numerous dying Leyland Cypresses along the perimeter. **Alison Burns Trimble**, who recently completed a Tree Steward course with the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, has agreed to take the lead on planning future tree needs.

We attach a **Calendar of Events** prepared for us by Environmental Enhancements with a schedule of work by month. If you'd like to see it in color, go to our www.Fairlington.org website or the Glen's Yahoo site (see the December GLEN ECHO for how to sign up).

At its March meeting, the Board reviewed a new draft **charter for the Landscape Committee**. The committee's objective is to assure that the Glen's landscape is maintained in an attractive, high quality manner that is environmentally sensitive and complements the entire community. In pursuing that objective, the committee:

- Guides the implementation of long-range landscape plans for the improvement of the common areas (all areas except those within patios)
- Proposes standards to the Board for landscape maintenance of the common areas
- Works with the management agent and contractors in planning landscape work throughout the year
- Monitors the implementation of landscaping efforts, and
- Communicates regularly with the community about landscape efforts.

The committee seeks the views of co-owners and keeps them informed by holding regular open meetings and reaching out in other ways. However, while the committee facilitates discussion of policies and practices, it is the Board that is ultimately responsible and to whom residents should turn when differences of opinion arise. To the extent possible, we want to insulate Landscape Committee chair(s) from differences of views and taste that have a greater impact on landscaping than on other areas of the Glen.

The date for the April Glen Board Meeting is changed to Wednesday, April 8 7:30p at FCC

Based on the above draft charter, on which we welcome comments, we seek one or more persons who would like to chair a Landscape Committee this year. Try it, you'll like it! If you would like to chat about the possibility, suggest changes to the proposed draft, or simply offer to become a member, please call **Bob Patrician** at 703-379-4379 or send him an e-mail at bob.patrician@verizon.net sometime during March.

One of the new activities we will begin this year is **shrub reduction and rejuvenation pruning**, which involves pruning of shrubs--specifically the euonymus and the Japanese hollies that have grown too large for the site or have become unsightly with age, along with some yews and other selected shrubs. Rejuvenation involves cutting the shrub to a height of 18 to 20 inches. The immediate impact will be an unattractive plant, but the shrubs will fill out by spring's end. By the end of summer you will see more vigorous growth, and the plants will be healthier over the long haul. We will begin this year in **Courts 12 to 16**.

Another change comes with the Board's approval of a proposal brought by **Carol Goodloe** on behalf of **red reflector** holders. Environmental Enhancements begins spring cleanup in March. All beds will be cut (or "carved"). However, after that step, no other actions will be taken by contractors on beds with approved red reflectors. Such reflectors indicate that residents will perform their own maintenance, including weeding, feeding, mulching, and pruning of all annuals, perennials, and shrubs. A signed waiver form must be submitted to the Board each year and is due to **Carol Goodloe** by **April 15**. A copy is included with this GLEN ECHO or may be found on the Glen's website at www.fairlington.org/glenindex.htm.

Finally, work is coming along nicely on the **renovation of the pool complex** (follow it in pictures at <http://fairlingtonglen.webs.com/index.htm>). We look forward to a much-improved facility for our staff, our guards, and for everyone in the community. Our property values will be enhanced by having such a fine facility. Between now and Memorial Day, you will begin to see finishing touches as the outside areas begin to look less like a construction site. **Melinda Patrician** and **Kathy Clatanoff** are joining forces to spearhead landscaping of the surrounding area, including the new entryway framed by beds, an archway, and planting pots. We will be ready for pool opening over Memorial Day weekend and a grand opening party on Saturday, May 30.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Thanks to all who turned in their emergency preparedness forms to **Maynard Dixon** and Court Reps last fall. Maynard has now compiled the information into a comprehensive worksheet for the Board's and management agent's use. Copies of individual response sheets for a court are also being provided to each court rep for their information and use as needed. We plan to expand on the database with information from management files and with another questionnaire this fall. **The Board thanks the Court Representatives Group and its chair, Maynard Dixon, for the good work done.**

The Court Representatives Group will be meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2009, at the FCC.

Topics include: Spring clean-up; dealing with maintenance problems and violations; the new confidential Violations List; and any problems or proposals that fall under new business.

SPRING CLEANUP

Spring is just around the corner. Our landscape contractor will be cleaning up the common areas just as we will be out cleaning up our patios, front stoops and beds.

Please look around to see if there are items left in the common areas that should be put in your patios or thrown out (personal items should not be left outside the rear patio gate or in your front bushes, for example). Leaves in your patio should be bagged and put in the trash, not raked outside the gate to the common area. The final leaf blowing occurred in mid-February. See if there are broken window well covers that you should replace, screen doors that are a bit shabby, or other items needing repair.

Some court reps feel comfortable discussing possible problems with residents. The Board encourages such conversations, preferring to avoid violation letters on matters that can be taken care of with a conversation between neighbors.

If items needing repair are the Glen's responsibility (refer to Handbook and Bylaws on allocation of maintenance and repair responsibilities), please let your court rep know or send an e-mail to our on-site staff at fairlingtonglen3m@verizon.net (or 703-820-9567) and our management agent, Terry McGuire at t.mcguire@cmgmt.com (703-569-5797, Ext. 5012; PLEASE NOTE: Terry's contact information was listed incorrectly in the January GLEN ECHO).

Fairlington Glen generally looks very nice—let's make it look especially so this spring.

TVs AND COMPUTERS

Getting a new TV or computer? Please don't throw the old one in the trash! Arlington residents can take old TVs and computers, which may contain lead and other harmful materials, to be recycled at the County's Electronics Collection and Recycling Center. The center accepts TVs (\$20 fee) and computer monitors (\$15 fee) every Saturday from 9 am until 3 pm at the Water Pollution Control Plant at 3402 S. Glebe Rd. This is the same place you can take paints and chemicals. Questions? Call 703-228-6832.

On Saturday, March 28 from 10 am to 2 pm you can take your electronics for recycling to the North Fairlington Community Center parking lot, 3005 S. Abingdon Street, where items will be taken directly from the trunk of your car. Computers, laptops, servers, monitors and LCD displays, and TVs are recycled for a \$10 fee. Other electronic items—basically anything else that plugs in—will be accepted free. Computer hard drive destruction is also available for a small fee. The rain date for this event is Saturday, April 4. Questions? Call Jeremy Farber at 703-436-1967 (Ext. 301).

Another option is to give your old TV or computer to a charity or community program that accepts donated electronic equipment or to an individual. Check the following sites:

<http://www.mygreenelectronics.org>

<http://www.habitat.org/env/restores.aspx>

<http://www.freecycle.org>

<http://www.craigslist.org>

Thanks for helping keep our environment healthy.

Reminder:

CALL SANDY HEATON AT 703-820-2058 FOR FREE TABLETS THAT CAN BE USED TO SEE IF YOUR TOILET HAS A SLOW LEAK.



RECREATION PASSES

It may still be a little chilly but it's never too soon to start dreaming of tennis, basketball and the pool! Owners and renters do not need to reapply for a recreation pass **UNLESS** they have lost a pass (and there is a \$5 charge for replacement passes) or if a family member has turned 12 in the last year and you have chosen to have individual passes. **New Owners and Renters** will need to submit an application. You can choose to get a family pass which can be used by all family members or have passes issued in individual names (for those 12 and up).

Check inside this edition of the Glen Echo for an Application Form. Or find the form online at www.fairlington.org/glenindex or join the Yahoo Group at groups.yahoo.com/group/fairlington_glen where you will find it in the Files folder.

Inside this Glen Echo you will find:

A Pool Pass Application

A "Red Reflector" Landscaping Waiver Form

A handy reference on Property Insurance Issues

A calendar of Landscaping maintenance routines

All these will be posted to the Yahoo Group Files folder.

So Join Us!

groups.yahoo.com/group/fairlington_glen
