

NEWSLETTER

New HOA Board Members

At the February Annual Meeting, three homeowners were selected to fill vacant At-Large seats on the Board of Directors. They are Chris Milke, John O'Loughlin, and Randy Sands. ❖

Accomplishments for 2015

At the February Annual Meeting, a summary of the major accomplishments for the past year were presented. They are outlined below:

Architectural Committee

- Projects approved: 1 shed, 1 deck, 2 patios, 2 detached garages, 2 walkways, a stairway from a deck, rails on a deck, the enlarging of a deck, a front stoop, and a new facade.

Landscaping Committee

- Landscape vendor (Estes) continues to do a good job.

Communication Committee

- Three HOA newsletters were published and distributed by email.
- The HOA web site was kept up to date

Other

- Trash removal ❖

HOA Board Meetings

Regular Board of Directors meetings are held from 7:00PM to 9:00PM on the following dates: Tuesday, April 12 (Sands residence); Thursday, June 9 (Stine residence); Tuesday, September 13 (O'Loughlin residence); and Thursday, November 17 (Thear residence). All homeowners are welcome to attend. ❖

HOA Web Site

The Brookeville Farms HOA web site is located at www.bfmdhoa.info. This site includes information pertaining to the HOA such as Architectural Review forms, minutes from previous board meetings, current and previous newsletters, as well as contact information for board members. ❖

Community E-Mail List

The Brookeville Farms community maintains an e-mail distribution list to make it easier to communicate with our neighbors. The e-mail address is "bfneighbors@bfmdhoa.info". This list has been used to find recommendations for service providers, find carpool buddies, and to participate in group purchasing agreements (like, propane and whole-house generators). The Homeowners Association newsletter is also distributed to this list.

To add your e-mail address to the list do the following:

- Using your web browser, go to the HOA web site - www.bfmdhoa.info.
- Select "E-mail List" from the left column.
- Fill in the form at the bottom of the page. ❖

Recycling

Montgomery County collects recyclable paper, cardboard, newspapers, bottles, and cans on Thursday. Please use the blue containers provided by the County. You should place your recycling containers at the end of your driveway late the night before or early in the morning. Please retrieve your recycling containers as soon as possible following pickup.

In a week when the normal recycling day falls on or after a county holiday, the recycling day is delayed one day. Example: If Thursday is a county holiday, recycling is picked up Friday. If Monday is a county holiday, recycling is picked up Friday. Note that regular trash pickup is skipped if it falls on a holiday and will be collected on the next regularly scheduled pickup day. Example: If Wednesday is a county holiday, trash is not collected and the next pickup is Saturday. The charge for recycling is included in your County tax bill.

If you want a reminder about recycling collection service changes due to upcoming holidays, you may sign up for email reminders at:

<http://preview.tinyurl.com/nkwhbjs> ❖

Cans

There have been reports of damage caused by trash/recycle trucks in the community's cul-de-sacs. To provide sufficient space for these large trucks, you are asked to place your trash and recyclables containers on the grass or on your driveway, but not in the street. Cans should be out before 6:30 a.m. on the day of the collection.

Remember that trash and recycle containers are not permitted to remain in public view, except on days of trash collection. ❖

Is it Flu or Carbon Monoxide Poisoning?

Winter is here and thousands of adults and children will experience "flu-like" symptoms. But not all such cases are caused by the flu virus. Some victims actually have been unknowingly exposed to carbon monoxide (CO), which can result in serious injury or even death.

In fact, the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning can be quite similar to flu symptoms, which can sometimes even mask a CO poisoning. The longer CO symptoms are overlooked, the more difficult it becomes to treat victims effectively.

The symptoms of CO generally progress as exposure increases. If exposure is prolonged, symptoms can become life-threatening, including increased heart rate, loss of consciousness, convulsions and seizures. Coma, brain damage and death can result if exposure is severe.

Carbon monoxide cannot be detected by human senses. The only safe way to detect it is to properly install CO alarms in the right locations in the home. Surprisingly, 75 million American homes do not have CO alarms. In addition to installing CO alarms, watch for these symptoms of CO poisoning:

MINOR SYMPTOMS

- Headache
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Irritability
- Blurred vision

MODERATE SYMPTOMS (in addition to minor symptoms)

- Drowsiness
- Weakness
- Dizziness
- Fainting
- Severe headache

- Difficulty thinking

SEVERE SYMPTOMS (in addition to moderate symptoms)

- Increased heart rate
- Loss of consciousness
- Convulsions/seizure

During winter the chance of CO poisoning increases so please make sure to ask the question "Is it flu or CO poisoning?" Don't wait until it's too late to install CO alarms. ❖

\$500 Fine

With lows dropping into the teens at night, Montgomery County authorities are reminding residents not to leave pets tied up and unattended outside. Pet owners face a \$500 fine for violating the ordinance.

The Director of the Montgomery County Animal Services Division Thomas Koenig says his officers will enforce a county regulation that says, "a person must not tether a dog under circumstances that endanger its health, safety, or well-being including: unattended tethering of the dog during a weather emergency." Enforcement of the regulation goes into effect during periods of extreme cold, wind, and heavy snow, which can all be damaging to dogs and other animals.

Montgomery County Police Animal Services officers urge residents to bring pets indoors during extreme weather. Even animals that are accustomed to living outdoors can be susceptible to the dangers of cold weather.

If you see an animal left outside that appears to be in danger, call the Animal Services Division immediately at 301-279-8000. ❖

Brookeville Bypass - Update

The Brookeville Bypass is intended to relieve traffic in downtown Brookeville and speed traffic not destined for the town. The bypass is designed to detour north-south traffic to the west of the Town of Brookeville. The northern end of the bypass will reconnect with Georgia Avenue south of Bordly Drive. According to the State Highway Administration, the project team plans to begin construction by the Summer of 2016. The current design is shown on the next page, but is subject to modification concerning the intersection with Brookeville Road. ❖

