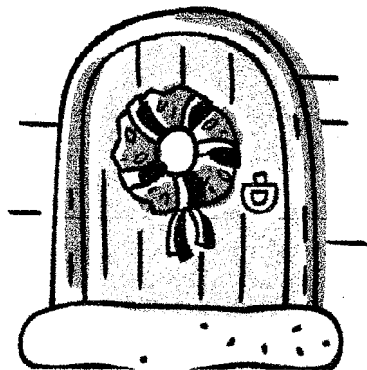




The Edmondson Heights Neighborhood News

Edmondson Heights Civic Association. on meets the first Tuesday of the month at Edmondson Heights Elementary School at 7:30. Upcoming meeting December 4, 2012 Note: Schools closing because of weather or holidays will automatically cancel the meeting.



EDMONDSON HEIGHTS COMMUNITY HOLIDAY DECORATIONS CONTEST

Each year the EHCA, Inc. hosts a community Holiday Decorations Contest. Volunteers tour the neighborhood and select one winner for each of the following categories: Daytime, Nighttime, Traditional and Children's Theme. Winners will be announced in the EHCA, Inc. Newsletter and receive gifts certificates in the amount of \$25.00.

Edmondson Heights Next Door Social Website

We now have a social website solely for the Edmondson Heights community of 1010 homes. The website is free and extremely easy to join. The website permits member input but only to verified members of the Edmondson Heights community. The website can be used for many things such as answering a neighbors question, reporting crime and emergency alerts, to post weather and traffic alerts, to discuss community issues, to publicize neighborhood events, to recommend businesses and service providers. Links to the Woodlawn Police Precinct, Baltimore Department of

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Edmondson Heights Civic Association website -
Visit *your* website to learn more about *your* neighborhood and to contact officers.

www.ehcaonline.org

A Joy Filled December

We all know that it is easy to get swept up in the frenzy of holiday activities like shopping, wrapping, baking or decorating. Sometimes it can be overwhelming and our calendars just seem chock full. We often let slide our other "regular" activities including exercise, spiritual practices or healthy eating habits during the "holiday season" due to the extra stress! How many groups are you a part of which don't meet in December "due to the holiday"?

For many of us, December brings up memories of the past, and creates a lonely sadness at the absence of a family member or friend around the holiday season. The empty chair at the table causes some of us to want to avoid holiday celebrations completely in an attempt to protect ourselves from the pain. It can be easier to try to ignore the trappings of the holiday than to allow the flood of memories.

Whether it is holiday sadness which overtakes you in December, I encourage you to find a way to ENJOY December this year! Surely it is possible. One simple way to enjoy December is to plan ahead. Be intentional about what activities, events, commitments you will make for the month. Put them on your calendar and when someone wants to add something new, evaluate it together with the other items you have committed to. Build in some breathing time, opportunities to do the fun, holiday events which recharge you-driving or walking our neighborhood to look at the Christmas lights, touring Mt. Clare Mansion with all of its holiday décor, listening to your favorite holiday music. One of my favorite Christmas stories is the Menotti opera, Amahl and the Night Visitors. If I get to listen to it or better yet, see it performed live!, that makes my December!

Another way to enjoy December is to spend some time on reflecting why you are celebrating in the first place. Remembering the roots of your celebrations and then sharing those reflections with another family member or a neighbor can help us to refocus on the joy of the holiday season even when the stress or sadness surrounds us. May you and your family have a joy-filled December, no matter what holiday you celebrate together.

Your neighbor on Kirkwood, Deborah McEachran

What Happened in Edmondson Heights in 2012?

Residents often wonder what the Edmondson Heights Civic Association, Inc. does for our community. Here's a recap of all the activities and services that EHCA, Inc. provided just this year:

- Project Clean Stream in April 2012 cleaned the litter out of the stream in our park.
- Community Clean-Up in September provided residents with the opportunity to get rid of bulk trash.
- Established *Next Door Edmondson Heights*, an online social network just for residents of Edmondson Heights.
- Prepared and distributed a quarterly *Edmondson Heights Neighborhood Newsletter* to each home in our community.
- Established and maintained flower gardens under the community signs in the triangle at Forest Park and Newfield and in the center island at Harwall and Kirkwood.
- Held a spring and a fall Yard Sale in the Park providing residents the opportunity to sell their 'stuff' and meet other neighbors.
- Held monthly community association meetings to discuss issues of concern to residents. Special guests included Officer Glass; Councilman Tom Quirk and his representative, Margaret Stokes; Code Enforcement representatives; and Tony Baysmore, representative of County Executive, Kevin Kamenetz.
- Developed an email database to inform residents of upcoming events and other items of community interest.
- Holiday decoration contest to recognize beautifully decorated homes in the community during the holiday season.
- Made a donation to the Edmondson Heights Elementary School PTA to support their work in the school.

We've had a busy year. Much has been accomplished. More residents are getting involved. Let's keep moving forward!!

Continued from page 1

Next Door Social Website

Permits, Approvals, and Inspection, Division of Neighborhood Improvement (formerly Community Conservation), Recycling and Trash, Baltimore County Government Office Web Site, Code Enforcement, Fire Department, Police Department, Public Schools and the EHCA web site are provided under resources on this site. So why not, the next time you sign on your computer, check it out and sign up.

<https://edmondsonheights.nextdoor.com/join>

If you like it as I am sure you will, I strongly encourage you to join the website. For immediate verified access, contact me at 410-788-3105 or email at

Quintin21207@verizon.net and I will provide you with

a code to use. This site can become an important tool in serving the community and the more members we have, the more valuable the site becomes.—Quintin Stevens

If you have already joined, thank you, now talk to your neighbors and other members of the community and get them to join. You can send email invitations or each month invite 10 homes to join by postcard. Lets increase the number of homes as members as soon as we can. Working together I'm sure we can do it!

SAFETY AT HOME

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning - Carbon Monoxide is odorless and because of that it is very dangerous. The people who live in the house on Granville all reported that they had been experiencing bad headaches for about a month before the fire. That is a pretty clear indicator that carbon monoxide was present in the house but not at a deadly level, yet. They had a Carbon Monoxide Detector on the second floor hallway but it never went off, probably because the levels were not yet deadly.

Things that can help prevent fires

- 1. Service furnace at least once a year.**
- 2. If your furnace is older than 12 or 15 years then have it serviced twice a year.**
- 3. Buy Carbon Monoxide and Fire/Smoke Detectors.**

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Dates to Remember

12/4/12-Election of officers and members of the Board of Directors. Edmondson Heights Civic Association meeting at 7:30 pm in the Edmondson Heights Elementary School Cafeteria

1/8/13-Edmondson Heights Civic Association meeting at 7:30 pm in the Edmondson Heights Elementary School Cafeteria

2/5/13-Edmondson Heights Civic Association meeting at 7:30 pm in the Edmondson Heights School Cafeteria

3/5/13-Edmondson Heights Civic Association meeting at 7:30 pm in the Edmondson Heights School Cafeteria

4/6/13 - Project Clean Stream: Edmondson Heights Park 9 a.m. to noon

4/9/13-Edmondson Heights Civic Association meeting at 7:30 pm in the Edmondson Heights School Cafeteria

5/7/13-Edmondson Heights Civic Association meeting at 7:30 pm in the Edmondson Heights School Cafeteria

6/4/13-Edmondson Heights Civic Association meeting at 7:30 pm in the Edmondson Heights School Cafeteria

6/8/13-Spring Yard Sale in the Park: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Keep The Lights On, Please!!!

Help reduce crime!!! By keeping the front and back porch lights on at our homes, we light up the night! This provides visibility both for us and for our neighbors who may come and go during the evening, night and early morning hours. It also provides security for the homeowner/resident. It deters individuals from 'hanging out' in dark areas. It discourages foot traffic through alleys and dark paths. Finally, it helps the police as they patrol the neighborhood. Use fluorescent floodlights or compact fluorescent bulbs in the porch lights to reduce electricity usage.

Dear Neighbors of Edmondson Heights Community,

YARD WASTE is defined as leaves, bushes, grass clippings, plants, tree trunks, branches, twigs, soil, sod, stones, rocks, pebbles, shrubbery, and other vegetation, etc.

YARD WASTE is the same as any other garbage or trash. When we have **YARD WASTE** from our homes, we need to dispose of **YARD WASTE** appropriately. **YARD WASTE** does not belong in *our* park. **YARD WASTE** is unsightly, can pollute the stream in the park and provides cover for rodents. It is unlawful to dump **YARD WASTE** in *our* park.

We all are citizens who live in Baltimore County. To learn more about **YARD WASTE**, go to the website for Baltimore County Government (<http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov>) and . . .

- Learn how to properly set out your materials for collection
- Find out what items are accepted for recycling in the County's single stream program
- View information about yard materials collection
- View Frequently Asked Questions about trash, recycling, and yard materials collection
- Learn about bulk item collection, which is not provided by Baltimore County
- Read detailed County trash/recycling regulations

I am requesting that anyone who witnesses **YARD WASTE** being dumped in *our* park or on any public property such as alleys and median strips in *our* community, report it immediately to Baltimore County Police or Code Enforcement. Do the right thing!

Your neighbor,
Keith Jenkins
Sergeant of Arms
EHCA, Inc.

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Continued from page 3

SAFETY AT HOME

- Install one of each detector not only on the 2nd floor hallway ceiling but also in the basement.
- They should be installed on the ceiling, at least 12 to 15 feet away from the furnace and hot water heater.
- Then pick a date such as a holiday or a birthday, etc. and change the batteries every year.

Electrical Fires

1. Extension cords are one of the main causes of electrical fires.
 - Do not use thin or lightweight extension cords, use heavy-duty extension cords.
 - Don't run extension cords under carpets or runners.
 - Don't set furniture on extension cords.
 - Keep extension cords out of walk ways, where people will walk on them.
2. Over loading outlets is also a major cause of electrical fires.

Dryer Vents - Another cause of a lot of house fires

1. Lint accumulates in the vent and can and does catch on fire.
 - Eliminate the flexible dryer vent hoses, these trap lint.
 - Install 4" diameter rigid metal stove pipe vents, similar to the vents on your hot water heater and furnace.
2. Check the vent pipes and outside trap doors once a year to make sure they are clear of lint.



A COVENANT CONTROLLED COMMUNITY

EDMONDSON HEIGHTS COVENANT GUIDELINES

Residents should be aware that a legally binding set of restrictive Covenants apply to all property in the Edmondson Heights Community. These Guidelines were established and initiated by the developers solely for the protection of property values within the community. It has been found that in developments, such as our own, composed of groups of homes not individually styled, a certain amount of conformity must be enforced in order to preserve property values.

The EHCA, Inc. has adopted the following Covenant Guidelines to insure that homeowners, who are considering alterations, comply with the Covenant Guidelines. These Guidelines have been modified and adapted from the Original Covenants that were established in March of 1953, and are in effect as of August 12, 2008. Any deviation from the Covenant Guidelines will require a written submission outlining the type of work to be done and the materials to be used along with drawn plan(s) delivered to the EHCA, Inc. Board of Governors, at P.O. Box 21150, Baltimore, Maryland 21228-0650. You may also deliver your plan to an Officer or Board Member at a regular monthly general membership meeting. The EHCA, Inc. Board of Governors retains the sole right to approve or disapprove all plans. Upon approval, from the EHCA, Inc. Board of Governors, residents are responsible for obtaining all necessary permits and inspections and for complying with all State and County laws and regulations. If you are found in violation and you, or anyone acting on your behalf, want to discuss it you must submit a request, in writing, to meet with the Board of Governors of EHCA, Inc., stating your situation and the reason for your request

AWNINGS

Only canvas awnings, either in green or green with white trim shall be on the front or the side windows of end-of-group homes. All canvas awnings must be removed for the winter months. Rear awnings may be of any type or variety but must not extend beyond the house line so as to be visible from the front street.

FRONT DOORS, STORM DOORS AND FRAMES

Front doors may be painted any color desired, although white is preferred. Storm doors must be painted white wood, white baked-on aluminum or aluminum. Door frames must be replaced in the same style as the original design and either constructed of wood or Fypon, in white only. Vinyl or aluminum cladding, in white only, that maintain the original design, are acceptable.

SECURITY DOORS

May be installed to replace storm doors. Security doors must be white.

END-OF-GROUP HOMES

Facing boards running to the peak must be painted white or covered with white aluminum or white vinyl. White shingles may be replaced or covered with white aluminum or white vinyl siding.

FENCES

Must not extend forward of the chimney. Fences are only permitted at the rear of the property. Chain link fences are preferred.

GUTTERS AND DOWN SPOUTS

Must be white, brick red or dark brown. Conformity within the group is encouraged.

PORCHES

Front porches must be replaced in the original design and be of concrete. Steps must be poured or prefab concrete, quarry stone or brick. Rear porches may be of wood, concrete or metal.

ROOFS

Must be replaced in the same style as the original, and must be a neutral color, preferably ranging from light gray to black. Attic fan installation must be in the back or side of the roof.

PAINTING

All exposed woodwork on the front, side and rear must be white (exception is rear porches). Front railings must be painted either black or dark green. Conformity within the group is encouraged. Front porches and the concrete wall below brickwork must be painted the color of the original concrete. The recommended concrete paint is the following Behr concrete stain formula from Home Depot:

Behr Plus 10 Concrete Stain

Catalina Stone (819)

White Base 800 (800)

Colorant	OZ	48	96
B Lamp Black	0	8	0
C Yellow Oxide	0	12	0
L Raw Umber	0	31	0

SATELLITE DISH ANTENNAS

Must be installed in a location not visible from the front of the house.

WINDOWS

Must imitate the original double hung construction with six over six sashes preferred. Both sashes must be able to be moved up and down. Replacement materials must be white or painted white. Security bars or grills and glass blocks are permitted on basement windows only.

WOOD STOVES AND FIREPLACES

Exposed exhaust piping must be bricked in, bricks to match existing, and must be located in the rear of the house. If exhaust piping is going through the roof the exposed pipes must be stainless steel and be located at the rear of the house.

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For Project Clean Stream

Advertise in the Edmondson Heights Neighborhood News !

URGENT INFORMATION

ALLEY PARKING CAN BE DANGEROUS IF THERE IS NOT ENOUGH SPACE FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES TO PASS THROUGH!

The Baltimore County Code, Sec. 21-103.

Parking on alleys and highways states:

"(b) No vehicle shall be parked, stopped, or left unattended in any alley in the county leaving less than twelve (12) feet of clearance parallel to the vehicle."

Vehicles that block alleys prevent trash and recycling pick-up that can lead to: Scattering of materials; Rodent problems; and Delay in material being removed.

VEHICLES THAT BLOCK ALLEYS ARE SUBJECT TO TICKETING AND TOWING.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

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