



Mark Your Calendar - 2018 Events

- April 7** Tilden Woods Park Litter Clean-up 10:00—noon See article below
- April 18** General Meeting and Election 7:30 pm—9 pm Farmland Elem. School
- April 22** Garden Club organization meeting 2 pm See article page 3
- May 9** County Council District 1 Candidates Forum, sponsored by GFCA & Luxmanor Citizens Association 7:30 pm Farmland Elem. School
- June 10** Community Day & BBQ Farmland Elem. School Park
BBQ, Bounce house, pony rides, games, fun for everyone!
- July 4** Parade and Pool Party Parade from Farmland to the Old Farm Pool
- Sept 16** Neighborhood Yard Sale Front yards all over the community
- Dec 9** General Meeting Farmland Elem. School
- Dec 16** Winter-on-the-Farmland Holiday Party Farmland Elem. School

Keep an eye on the listserv, GreaterFarmland.org, and facebook.com/GreaterFarmland for further details and exciting plans for these events.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN WHITE FLINT???

GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION

Wednesday, April 18, 7:30 pm to 9 pm

Farmland Elementary School All-Purpose Room

Amy Ginsburg of Friends of White Flint, will discuss the future of our community and its surroundings. Friends of White Flint is a non-profit organization with civic, resident, and business membership, dedicated to working with all parties for an optimal community. Come with your questions.

Introducing Captain Paul Liquorie, our new Commander of the MC Police Department 2nd District.

And... our always popular ELECTIONS! Do you want to be part of the GFCA team? You can self-nominate at the meeting.

LITTER CLEANUP VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Saturday, April 7th, 10 am to ~noon

Tilden Woods Park

Sponsored by Friends of Cabin John Creek, Inc., Greater Farmland Civic Association, and Luxmanor Citizens Association

Come help us pick up trash around the creek area at Tilden Woods Local Park on Saturday morning, April 7th from 10 am until about noon. SSL approved. Sign-in at the parking lot.

Important: Wear clothes that you don't mind getting wet and muddy. Volunteers may need to go into muddy areas and shallow water in order to pick up litter. Please wear sturdy footwear (waders or boots would be appropriate). Please, no flip-flops. We recommend long-sleeved shirts and pants, along with insect repellent. Through the support of Montgomery County Parks Department, we will provide work gloves and trash bags. No rain date.

Contacts: FCJC volunteers Mike Northridge or Sandy Laden via cleanups@cabinjohncreek.org

PARTY, PARTY!! BLOCK CAPTAINS' UPDATE



In February, the GFCA held its first annual Block Captain Appreciation Party, with great food, music, and of course, company, hosted admirably by Kathy and Ray Hoffman. We have 47 wonderful block captains, who look out for all of us. We need a captain for parts of Tilden Lane, and the GFCA is looking for co-captains everywhere, so consider volunteering. The duties are only occasional, and the benefits include getting to know your neighbors better and attending a great party! If interested, contact Marta Vogel at 301-984-6855 or marta@limelightdrama.com.



OUR ASSOCIATION TESTIFIED TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL—AND WE WERE HEARD!

Your GFCA presented testimony on the proposed Montgomery County Capital Budget for FY 2019 and the Capital Improvements Plan for 2019-2024. We testified that the Council allocate funds to school construction in the Walter Johnson Cluster, to pedestrian/bicycle improvements, to a regional recreation center for North Bethesda, and to improvements to our Metro Stations. We supported our friends in Forest Glen by advocating for a tunnel under Georgia Avenue so that their residents would not have to cross a dangerous intersection in order to reach the Forest Glen Metro Station. We, along with many other citizen groups, requested that the Council remove funding from the unnecessary eastern segment of Montrose Parkway and reallocate it for these other, more critical needs.

I'm pleased to report that the County Council, voting unanimously, was joined by Executive Leggett in support of our position. Parkway East funding has been postponed, and \$20M was added to school construction projects, a study for a 2nd entrance to the White Flint Metro Station at the north end of the platform, bicycle & pedestrian safety improvements, and a tunnel under GA Ave at the Forest Glen Metro Station.

Ed Rich, President, GFCA

ROLLING HOUSE ROAD LITTLE FREE LIBRARY 11405 ROLLING HOUSE ROAD

Nicknamed the "RHR-LFL," the not-so-Little Free Library is here for your reading pleasure! All neighbors are welcome to stop by and browse, sit, borrow, exchange, and mostly enjoy the books

in the library. There are 2 boxes; the smaller has younger childrens' books, and the larger is for older readers-to-adults. There are seasonal themes and surprises to keep things fun. In our first 6 months, the library has featured Fall/Halloween mysteries, Winter/Christmas/Hanukkah, Golden Books, Dr. Suess/Beginner Books (we still have A LOT of them—

please TAKE what you like) and will have a new theme for Spring soon! Please enjoy the chair and picnic table; it's fine to stay awhile to browse. Introduce yourself or leave a note or any comments/suggestions in the Guest Book (found in the big box).

Contact the library steward, Tracy Lowrey, lowreynt@verizon.net, if you would like to contribute with donations of books or volunteer to read aloud at a Summertime Story Time (a great way for your older child to be involved in the community)!



NEIGHBORHOOD GARDENERS (OR GARDENING WANNABES)!

The GFCA Beautification Committee has been germinating ideas for sprouting a new Neighborhood Garden Club. We'd like to gather for a planning & sharing meeting to discuss these and other ideas:

- Monthly meetings with speakers
- Plant Swap and Seed Exchange
- Open Garden tours in the neighborhood

If you are interested in helping to establish a neighborhood garden club, or just want to learn a bit more about what it might offer, please join us with your ideas and enthusiasm on Sunday, April 22, at 2PM at the home of Karen Fricke, 11610 Hitching Post Lane. If you have any questions about the meeting, please email Karen at karenafricke@gmail.com.



APRIL GARDENING TIPS FROM YOUR BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

- Most spring bulbs have fully emerged and are flowering at this time. Remove the spent flowers but leave bulb foliage alone until it dies back naturally.
- Lawn mowing season begins in April. Cool season grasses such as tall fescue and bluegrass should be maintained at 3.0 inches for most of the growing season.
- Keep your mower blades sharp to prevent turf damage. Dry white or tan colored grass blade tips are an indication that the blade is dull. Dull mower blades tear turf grass and can lead to lawn disease.
- Leave the grass clippings where they lay. "Grasscycling" eliminates bagging labor and adds organic matter and nitrogen to your soil, allowing you to apply 25% less nitrogen fertilizer.
- Fertilizing in the spring encourages rapid succulent growth that is more susceptible to attack by insects and disease in the summer months.
- This month, summer broadleaf weeds like dandelions, plantain, and clover resume growth. If you have only a few weeds, dig them out. For more extensive weed problems apply a properly labeled broadleaf herbicide to selectively spot treat them. This eliminates treatment of the entire lawn with a granular product.
- Pick up and discard dog droppings from turf areas, which will burn grass plants. Decaying pet waste also contributes to polluting our lakes, streams and the Chesapeake Bay.
- Mushrooms do not damage the lawn. These fungi are feeding on decaying organic matter in the soil. They will disappear with a return to dry conditions.
- Tilling wet soil can cause it to become cloddy and brick hard when it dries out. How do you know when your soil can be turned or tilled? One test is to form a clump of your soil into a ball. Bounce it up and down in your hand a few times. If it breaks apart easily, it's probably OK to work.
- Mulch should be applied only 2-3 inches deep around ornamental plants. Keep mulch away from shrub and tree trunks, as well as from house foundations.

REPORTING DEAD OR DYING TREES IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

If you are concerned about a dead or dying tree on a public right-of-way, contact Montgomery County Division of Highway Services. Public right-of-way includes the area between the sidewalk and curb. If there is no sidewalk, the public right-of-way easement is typically around 10 feet from the curb into the property. Any trees in that space may qualify for county removal or maintenance. Call 3-1-1 to reach the call center, or go online to submit an electronic form, "Request to Inspect, Remove or Prune County Trees," at <http://www3.montgomerycountymd.gov/311/Services.aspx?SolutionId=-1>. If the county removes the tree, it will also remove the stump (at a later date) and replant at the homeowner's request. Trees in the public right-of-way are also trimmed by PEPCO if their branches rub on the power lines. In this situation, you should contact PEPCO directly as the County does not prune trees for utility line clearance.

Consult the web site for more information:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-highway/tree/TreeRemove.html>

Greater Farmland Civic Assoc. Directors

Ed Rich, President president@GreaterFarmland.org
Tom Biggs, Treasurer treasurer@GreaterFarmland.org
Peggy Slye, Secretary
Mark Friedman, Rick Gentry, Meg Gold, Toby Levin,
Marjorie Raley, Cecelia van Rooyen, Peter Rumm,
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Committees include
Membership, Directory, & Newsletter, Emily Mintz
Beautification, Pamela Levine & Karen Fricke
Social, Kathy Hoffman
Welcome & Webmaster, Rick Gentry
Traffic & Transportation, Tracy Miller
Energy & Government Affairs, Paul Arveson

Questions? info@GreaterFarmland.org



DIDN'T WE HAVE A FABULOUS WINTER-ON-THE-FARMLAND PARTY?

This was a hoot! Kids doing arts & crafts, goodies from the best bakers in town (us!), a fun DJ with a big smile and great music, guessing-game competition, and the company of our neighbors. Thank you, everyone, for a fun holiday get-together and celebration.



WSSC UPCOMING SEWER REPAIRS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

WSSC held a briefing on March 12th for the Cabin John Basin Repair, Replacement, and Rehabilitation Project, scheduled from August 2018 through March 2019. Project Manager, Monet Lea, said the project scope involves sewers and manholes with a reported history of back-up, including on sections of Farmland Drive, Split Rail Court, Old Gate Place, Whippoorwill Lane, Tilden Lane, Old Cabin Lane, and Plantation Lane. A map of planned repairs can be found at <http://gis.wsscwater.com/inyourneighborhood>. Houses in front of the affected street sections will receive a door tag notice 48 hours before work commences.

Work in most cases, Lea said, will involve "trenchless" repairs for pipes over 6", including relining pipes or repairing manhole covers. To minimize disruption to sewer service, they will run bypasses during the lining and curing process. In a few cases, they will trench-and-replace 6" pipes with new 8" pipes. Houses without a clean-out along a trenched section will have one installed up to the property line. Lea said that WSSC does not anticipate removing any trees in the public easements for this purpose; however, if it turns out that a tree is on the line or they need to remove enough roots to kill a tree, WSSC will take the tree down and replant.

Residents can contact Monet Lea, project manager, to learn what kind of repair is planned on their street: Monet.Lea@wsscwater.com or 301-206-8036.

2018 Membership—Renew or Join NOW
GreaterFarmland.org/membership--directory

Your Civic Association is an all-volunteer effort
By Neighbors for Neighbors



Greater Farmland Civic Association
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