

Elk Forest Civic Association Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2024

Hello Neighbors and happy Spring! It has been a while since we have published a newsletter but there is a lot to report at this time.

We had a wonderful turnout at our **Holiday Party** once again hosted by The LaPense's at their beautiful property on South Shore Road. Despite the torrential rain, the atmosphere was festive with their tree still decorated and lit by real candles! We are so appreciative of their generosity in hosting these last few years and they have agreed to do it again next year!

The Elk Forest Civic Association was formed in 1970. It is a voluntary organization who's soul interest is our neighborhood of Elk Forest. Many people have served on the Board multiple times in different positions. As people come and go in our neighborhood, we would like to encourage some new faces on the Board. It is not a difficult or time-consuming job (just three one- hour meetings/year, plus the picnic) and is a great way to be informed and have some involvement in your neighborhood. Our **Nominating Committee**, Laurie Leone and Christine LaPense, will be reaching out to neighbors to see if anyone has interest in joining the Board, but please contact one of them if you have an interest or would like to learn more.

Our **Spring Cleanup** is scheduled for April 20th with a rain date of April 21th. Driving down Elk Forest Road you can see the debris that has collected over the winter. We will meet on the corner of Elk Forest & South Forest Roads where David Silverman will once again be manning the coffee and donut station. Mike Leshner will collect the bags filled with trash and dispose of it after the cleanup. We have a great time walking, talking and picking up trash. Long pants and gloves are highly recommended. Hope to see you there!

Finally, after much encouragement by Christian LaPense, we will be having our first **Progressive Dinner** on April 20th, the evening of the Cleanup. Look for a flyer in your mailbox with more details, but we already are seeing support, and it promises to be great fun!

This year our **Annual Meeting** is scheduled for August 10th (rain date: 8/11) and will be hosted by Samantha and Travis Hembree at their home at 1420 Elk Forest Road. They are relatively new to our neighborhood and have jumped right in to support the Civic Association. We are so grateful for their participation!

The company that has done our neighborhood **mosquito spraying** the last few years was recently sold, and as we have been unable to find a private company offering community mosquito treatment, we will be contracting with Cecil County for the 2024 season. The insecticide will be the same EPA-approved product that's been applied in previous years and is designed to drift with the wind and control mosquitoes on contact: it does not provide residual control.

Please note there will be differences in this service vs. previous years:

1. Treatments will be once/week (sometime between 7PM and 7AM) beginning in May, running thru September.
2. They will enter some of the longer driveways, but **NOT ALL OF THE DRIVEWAYS**. The route will be determined by the Maryland Department of Agriculture supervisor assigned to our neighborhood.
3. If you choose to opt out of the neighborhood program, you must submit the enclosed "*Request for Exemption from Adult Mosquito Control Services*" form to mdorsey@cecilcountymd.gov on or before April 24.

If you'd like additional mosquito control treatment, Dependable Pest Management has offered a discount on their monthly mosquito & tick treatment to Elk Forest residents who contract with them by April 26. If you're interested in the details please see their flyer which is posted on our website.

Lastly, the Maryland Department of Agriculture is advising that there is species of mosquito in our area that is very difficult to control, even with community-wide spraying: the Asian Tiger mosquito. An aggressive biter, it is a unique in that it only lays its eggs in containers: flower pot saucers, buckets, gutters, birdbaths, children's toys, etc. It limits its travel to roughly 500 feet from where it emerges and feeds primarily on humans. The only effective way to control this mosquito is by cleaning, dumping or removing water-holding containers.

In closing, we just want to thank all who participate and make Elk Forest the wonderful neighborhood that it is. We are blessed to live in nature between two bodies of water with wonderful people surrounding us.

Sherri Mitchell and Joanne Silverman

Co-Presidents