



# GLEN FARMS AND TARA CIVIC ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 2024



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[www.glenfarms.org](http://www.glenfarms.org)

## MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

Friends and neighbors, autumn calls upon us as the days are growing shorter and the nights cooler. This is a great time to find yourselves outside enjoying the wonderful community we have here. Unfortunately, more vandalism occurred at the tennis courts, in which individuals removed the volleyball net and, while trying to tie it between the tennis posts, severely damaged the net. That means that both the tennis net and the volleyball net were damaged beyond use and have been removed. Before we replace anything, however, we will be looking to residents for thoughts and ideas to secure Glen Farms property against vandalism. The bylaws restrict the common area usage to those dues-paying households; we do not want to enforce those restrictions, but continued vandalism may necessitate that in the future as we explore every option at our disposal.

Lastly, several members had expressed concerns regarding the recent event hosted by private dues-paying members of the community. As a reminder, any dues-paying resident is permitted to use the common areas or host an event. For those who showed up, there happened to be a wonderful time with candidates present from both sides of Cecil County's political aisle. There was a lot of discussion and debating of ideas, and it was wonderful seeing all our neighbors of various backgrounds and beliefs who showed up doing so in a positive and constructive manner. That is the sort of the community we enjoy and support and look forward to more wonderful events with our neighbors.

--John

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Tuesday, September 17 at 7 p.m.**

We recently had a General Membership Meeting for Glen Farms and Tara on Tuesday September 17 at Newark Baptist Church. The first takeaway was environmental concerns brought to us by the Earth Day squad. A fall invasive foliage clearing event may be in the works for later October; an email will be sent out soliciting volunteers, so stay tuned. Additionally, a board member described the negative effects of vines growing on trees. A more detailed message will be communicated soon.

The second takeaway was that GFTCA board elections are coming up in December. The positions that will be up for election are two board members, the Vice President, and the Treasurer. If anyone in the neighborhood is interested in submitting their names for candidacy, please contact any member of the board and attend the next General Membership in December.

## FRIDAY NIGHT BY THE LAKE

**Friday, September 27 at 7p.m.**

**Friday, October 11 at 7 p.m.**

Come join us in September on the 27<sup>th</sup> and in October on the 11<sup>th</sup> as we the next Friday Nights by the Lake. September's FNBTL will remain as usual, but additional activities and a fall theme are in the works for October's FNBTL. Stay tuned for details.

## **SIGN UP FOR TEXT NOTIFICATIONS**

The Civic Association has added a text messaging capability to its suite of communication tools. Our intent is to use it for critical alerts such as road closures, hazardous conditions, last minute schedule changes and the like. We don't want to flood your phone with unnecessary traffic.

To begin using this service you will need to register at <https://glenfarms.org/registration/>

The top form is used to register for access to our classifieds page (and coming soon - interactive forums) while the bottom form is used to register for text messaging. Please complete both if you haven't already registered.

## **ROAD HAZARDS**

We have crested the peak of summer, friends. As the autumn season draws near, there are a couple home maintenance items to be aware of, as they have an impact on the rest of our friends and neighbors. When you mow your lawn near the road, grass clippings often find their way into the road where they stay. If your grass clippings find their way into the road, please sweep them back into your yard or dispose of them, as the clippings on blacktop pose a significant slipping risk for your neighbors. Motorcycles, bicycles, and even runners can slip on grass clippings leading to injury. Especially with the fall season approaching, leaves pose an equally serious danger, so please ensure your clippings and leaves are swept off the road.

Next is overgrowth over the road. There are numerous areas around our neighborhood where the vegetation from residents' yards extends into the roadway. This can cause issues with obscured vision, narrowing the roadway, and artificially restricting the vehicles moving through an area. We ask that you keep that in mind, and please trim foliage so that it does not hang into the roadway. The county can trim the roadways back if called; however, they are not likely to trim as carefully as a homeowner, so we highly recommend homeowners take the initiative and support neighborhood traffic safety.

## **HURRICANE SAFETY**

Friends and neighbors, we have been fortunate so far this hurricane season, however we still find ourselves within its grips. Hurricane season runs from early June through the end of November and, while we typically suffer fairly minor effects during the 14 average hurricanes per year, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration estimates a record-setting 17-25 named hurricanes this year, and we want our neighbors to be prepared. When a hurricane is approaching, make sure your devices are charged and loose toys and patio furniture are secured where they may not find themselves airborne. Have an emergency kit ready, with items like flashlights, a hand-crank radio, a gallon of water per day, nonperishable food items, and additional prescription medication you may need. FEMA has a great list for Emergency Kit contents here: [How to Build a Kit for Emergencies | FEMA.gov](#).

Remember never to cross flooded roads as the strength of just three inches of water is enough to force a vehicle off the road. And last but not least, make sure you check in on your neighbors of all ages. Let's be there for each other, and strengthen the bonds of our community, as it is together in which we find strength.