



GLEN FARMS & Tara civic association

Spring 2025



Find us on Facebook

facebook.com/glenfarmscivicasociation

Check out our website: www.glenfarms.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Friends and neighbors, it appears the worst of the cold weather is behind us! As the weather warms up, many of our residents take to our streets to walk together, run, cycle, walk their dog, etc. Please remember that there are more people on the road, so make sure you drive slowly through the neighborhood; we have too many twists, bends, and corners to drive fast. Please drive like your kids live here! Please also take care to leash your dog when you go for a walk – it's the law, but, more importantly, it can help protect Fido from being hit by a car or injured by another dog.

Onto a happier note, the board has received all your input from the surveys and is embarking on a path forward! Stay tuned as we will ask for volunteers and donations to help transform Brinton Park into the best version of itself. Also, Friday Nights by the Lake (FNBTL) are back! Join us for the first Friday Night by the Lake on Friday, March 28th, for a Spring Fling!

And, last but certainly not least, keep being excellent to each other, and reach out to the board if you are interested in volunteering at all!

–John

DUES MESSAGE

Friends, neighbors, residents – remember to pay your 2025 dues! The dues are **\$40** per household per year and can be paid here: [Membership – Glen Farms & Tara Civic Association](#); however, *please* reach out to any board member or contact us through the website or Facebook if that amount is prohibitive for you or your family. Perhaps in lieu of dues, you could volunteer time? We would be happy to work with you and arrive at a solution together! As a reminder, your dues **DO NOT**:

- pay any type of salary to board members (positions are 100% voluntary)
- pay for any religious holiday observance (Christmas and Easter events are sponsored *privately* by a community member)

However, your dues **DO**:

- support the implementation of FNBTL and other community events
- support the upkeep of common areas like Lake George and Brinton Park
- support upgrades to common areas (Brinton Park upgrades coming soon!)



EARTH DAY

April 27, 2025

Come join your neighbors and help with the Glen Farms Tara Spring cleanup

Lake George Cleanup | Sunday, April 27th, 10am – 2pm | Contact Kath Gibney djka@comcast.net

- Picking up trash, cutting brush, bamboo, etc.
- Bring gloves, pruners, lopping shears, other yard tools and your water bottle.
- Come anytime between 10am - 2pm. Even an hour is helpful!
- Children are welcome but suggest that they be at least middle school aged and accompanied by an adult due to using saw blades to cut bamboo

Roadside Trash Cleanup | April 27th | Contact Kim Silva kim_whale@comcast.net

- Pick up trash throughout the community or sign up for a designated area
 - o Rt 896 to Westover Rd
 - o Westover to Union School Rd
 - o Union School Rd to Ridge Rd
 - o Ridge Rd to Rt 273/Telegraph Rd
 - o Rt 896 to Harvest Ln
- Driver to pick up the bagged trash from above listed routes (someone with a truck)

We are grateful for your help and please feel free to recruit others to join. If a neighborhood child needs volunteer hours, this is a great opportunity (but please keep roadside safety in mind for young children)!

SPRING FNBTL

This year, the board wants to increase the amount of community events and community engagement. To that end, we have scheduled FNBTL once a month from March until October, with a theme assigned to each FNBTL. If you are interested in volunteering to help these events come to fruition, please contact Kelsey Novak at ksmeltz91@gmail.com or (717) 715-4903.

FNBTL Date	Theme
March 28, 2025	Spring Fever
April 18, 2025	Grilled Cheese & Earth Day Fest
May 16, 2025	Multicultural Night
June 13, 2025	Flag Day
July 18, 2025	Summer Bonanza
August 15, 2025	Ice Cream Social
September 12, 2025	Back to School/Parental Freedom
October 24, 2025	Spooky Season

March 28, 2025 (7pm)

We are kicking off the 2025 FNBTLs in March with a **SPRING FEVER** theme! Let's gather at Lake George on March 28. Expect music, spring decorations, food and drink, and a special "planting" station for kids (big kids aka adults also allowed).

April 18, 2025 (7pm)

The theme for April's FNBTL will be **GRILLED CHEESE & EARTH DAY FEST**. To get us all excited for Earth Day on April 22, and because April 12 is national Grilled Cheese Day, we will have a grilled cheese station with delicious sandwiches for sale for \$1 apiece. Proceeds will go towards the Earth Day fund so that each year's community Earth Day can be as successful as possible.

May 16, 2025 (7pm)

The theme for May's FNBTL will be **MULTICULTURAL NIGHT**. We will have snacks, music, and decorations paying homage to various cultures. There will also be a story corner, where a volunteer will read kids' books from other countries.

THE BOARD NEEDS YOUR HELP

We recognize that we don't always have the broadest perspective as we plan for activities and projects in our community. So, we've decided to ask for help. This is your opportunity to contribute to the community with minimal time commitment and no money! We are forming a group of residents to act as informal advisors. No meetings are required, just be willing to respond when asked. Qualifications for this group are:

- (1) have been a resident for 5 years or less
- (2) have children aged birth through high school at home.

This will be a minimal time commitment; we just need some brains to pick occasionally. If you're interested, please email webmaster@glenfarms.org.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES REQUESTED

Neighbors, if you would like your voice to be heard, or if you are interested in contributing to the community but you are short on time or resources, please consider writing a short article (one – three paragraphs max) for possible inclusion in future newsletters that may be of interest to GFTCA residents. The board is building a repository of articles for quick, easy insertion into newsletters that might be a bit thin on content. Do not worry about editing, the board will do that for you. Just send your potential article to the GFTCA secretary Kelsey Novak at ksmeltz91@gmail.com. Your article is not guaranteed to be included in a newsletter, but it might be!

FISHING DERBY

Planning for this year's Fishing Derby is in the early stages. The board is currently trying to determine the best date. If you have ideas, please contact GFTCA VP Scotty Hartman at scottyatwork@hotmail.com.

DEER RESISTANT PLANTS OF THE NORTHEAST



We all know that deer in Glen Farms are right at home and likely won't be moving out any time soon. If you're a gardening enthusiast, this can be frustrating as the deer seem to view our gardens as their personal buffets. If you are tired of having your garden decimated by our white-tailed friends, fear not! There are solutions to be had. First, let's keep in mind some general dietary preferences of deer:

- Deer prefer leaves, flower, buds, and young stems. This means that even deer-resistant plants should be sheltered with a cage while young and budding.
- Surprisingly, deer are not well adjusted to digest grass. This means that native, ornamental grasses can be a wonderful solution to enhance your landscape.
- Deer are not fond of strong smells. Aromatic and herbal smells such as oregano, mint, onion, and garlic offend their olfactory senses.
- Deer generally do not eat ferns; they are usually too coarse and have a strong, bitter taste.

Next, let's learn about some perennials and grasses which are good pollinators, beloved of bees and insects (deer not so much).

- Perennials which spread and enjoy full sun
 - o Bee balms (*Monarda* spp.) are summer bloomers and typically flower for a long time
 - o Mountain mints (*Pycnanthemum* spp.) appear silvery and contrast well with bright colors

Perennials that will stay put but still enjoy sun

- o Echinacea and Baptisia will generally be left alone by deer
- o Allium genus, such as *A. cernuum*, *A. canadense*, or *A. tricoccum* (think onion and garlic)

- Perennials that are native and enjoy sun
 - o Anise-scented goldenrod (*Solidago odora*)
 - o Aromatic aster (*Symphotrichum oblongifolium*)
- Perennials that enjoy shaded areas
 - o Ferns (sensitive fern, ostrich fern, Christmas fern, hay-scented fern, and cinnamon fern)
 - o Wild ginger and Allegheny pachysandra are great native ground cover
- Grasses (long and native)
 - o Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
 - o Big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*; 4-10' tall!)
- Grasses (shorter, with fine-textured blades)
 - o Sedge species (*Pennsylvanica*, *Vulpinoidea*, and *Appalachia*)



Finally, here are some links if you are interested in further reading. Happy gardening!

- <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/deer-resistant-plants/>
- <https://mtcubacenter.org/native-plant-finder/>
- <https://mtcubacenter.org/trials/monarda/>
- <https://www.plantmorenatives.com/#/>
- <https://www.izelplants.com/>
- <https://www.ernstseed.com/>