



# GLEN FARMS & TARA CIVIC ASSOCIATION

## Autumn 2026



Find us on Facebook

[facebook.com/glenfarmscivicasociation](https://facebook.com/glenfarmscivicasociation)

Check out our website: [www.glenfarms.org](http://www.glenfarms.org)

---

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Friends and neighbors, happy fall! We are entering the time of year I like to refer to as soup season! You know the feeling – the days get shorter, the hearths and fire pits roar with the crackle of festive fires and toasted marshmallows, the trees turn vibrant and beautiful shades of reds and yellows as they prepare to sleep through the winter. As the days grow cooler and the leaves drop, please remember not to blow or dump your leaves into the roadway, as this can cause serious safety concerns for walkers, joggers, bicyclists, and motorcyclists when the wet leaves slide across the pavement. I know many folks like to completely clear their yard of leaves, but many organizations including the Conservation Foundation say that leaving your leaves in the yard over the winter is actually great for the yard. It gives shelter for the bugs and insects that do work in the yard, and subsequently become food for the larger insects and birds in your yards.

We are sending out our Statement of Work for mowing and maintaining the common areas in the next couple weeks. Do you have any mowers or landscapers you would recommend? Send us their contact information, or share with them the Statement of Work when it comes out, we'd love to get more bids! Keep being excellent to each other!

-John R. Novak

## FRIDAY NIGHT BY THE LAKE

Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm

Friends and neighbors, On October 23rd, we will be hosting Friday Night by the Lake (FNBTL) again at 6:00pm. This month, we will be hosting Fall Fest! Prepare for apple cider, cider donuts, a pie-baking contest, and more! Stay tuned to our Facebook page and check your emails for more info! If you are interested in similarly sponsoring a FNBTL, please either comment below, message the page, or contact us via [glenfarms.org](http://glenfarms.org).

Thank you to everyone who came out to the September tailgate Friday Night by the Lake! And congratulations to everyone who found the four double-dogs, that was definitely a feature, not a bug!

## DUES MESSAGE

Our dues cycle resets in February, so February 1<sup>st</sup> will be the beginning of the 2027 dues year. We will be pushing for dues again next year to ensure we can maintain solvency, and in order to put funding aside toward the Brinton Park Project. We know sometimes it can be tough to remember whether you have already paid your dues, and we heard your input. Next year we are planning to send a monthly reminder email to residents that reflect an unpaid status in our database. We hope this will make it easier to support the association through endeavors like repairs, playground projects, and the Ice Cream Social! You can pay your dues by going to <https://glenfarms.org/membershipnew/> and choosing to use either Venmo or Paypal to process the payment.

## DOG SAFETY

 A Friendly Reminder: Let's Keep Our Dog Walks Safe!

Dog walks are one of the best parts of the day—for our pups and for us! They're a chance to get some exercise, enjoy the neighborhood, and maybe share a friendly hello with fellow dog lovers. A recent situation in the neighborhood is a good reminder that even the best-behaved dogs can surprise us. Equipment can shift, dogs can get startled, and an unexpected moment can happen in seconds.



**A few simple habits can help keep everyone safe:**

 Check the fit. Make sure your dog's harness or collar is secure and properly fitted before heading out. A harness that is too loose can allow a determined dog to escape.

 Inspect your leash and connections. Take a quick look at clips, buckles, and attachment points before every walk.

 Keep control in public areas. Even friendly dogs may react differently when excited, frightened, or approached by another dog. Keeping dogs leashed and close provides an extra layer of safety.

 Give other dogs some space. Not every dog wants to say hello. Crossing the street, changing direction, or creating a little distance can prevent an unwanted interaction.

 Practice recall. A reliable "come" command can be incredibly valuable if a leash breaks or a dog manages to get loose.

Most importantly, let's look out for one another. A little extra attention to equipment, distance, and control can make our neighborhood walks safer and more enjoyable for dogs, owners, pedestrians, and everyone sharing the sidewalk.

Here's to happy tails, safe walks, and a great dog-friendly neighborhood!  

## ASTON POINTE



There are not many significant updates to the Aston Pointe concern for this newsletter. The Stop Aston Pointe group on Facebook is soliciting donations to put toward funding a lawyer to assist with fighting the Aston Pointe project and making sure things are done properly. Additionally, the group has sent multiple information requests to county government and representatives, encountering some resistance and requests for significant fees associated with

pulling records. The group is seeking input, donations and volunteers to assist with the effort. The website is <https://www.stopastonpointe.org/> and you can find them on Facebook at the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61590193664017>. Glen Farms and Tara Civic Association has no official affiliation with the group, and presents this information as part of our continuing effort to keep the community informed.

## BRINTON PARK UPGRADES

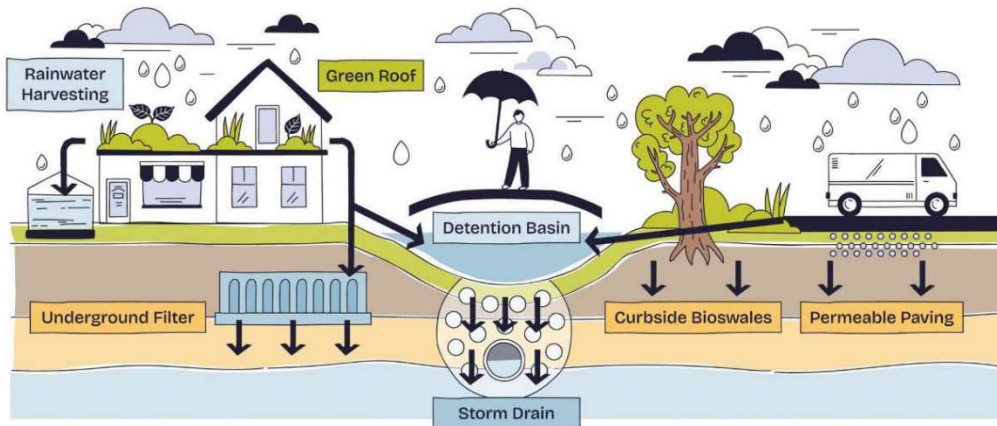
If you are free this weekend, there will be a cleaning party Saturday 10/3 from 1-3pm to pick up sticks, run the wood through a woodchipper, and spread the woodchips at the park. The more volunteers the merrier, and more hands make less work! The rain date for this event will be the same time the following weekend, 10/10.

We are aware that the recently repaired footbridge at Brinton Park is beginning to break down. Replacement of the footbridge has been prioritized; if you have any lumber you would be willing to donate to the replacement effort, please reach out to [webmaster@glenfarms.org](mailto:webmaster@glenfarms.org).

Thank you for the wonderful individuals who have donated money toward the Brinton Park project! In addition to personal contributions, the GFTCA apparel fund raiser managed to generate \$220 earmarked for the park. Improvements are planned for based on the information we received from our residents who filled out our survey a little while back. The biggest demand items are somewhere to park, a walking path, picnic tables, refurbishment of the tennis court (to include striping for Pickleball), and a playground. This is a lot, for sure, but we have confidence that proper stewardship of our finances, combined with robust fundraising measures, can make most, if not all, of these upgrades a possibility. WHAT WE NEED: If you have fundraising ideas or would be interested in donating time, funding, or efforts to help the Brinton Park Project come to fruition, please reach out to [webmaster@glenfarms.org](mailto:webmaster@glenfarms.org).



## Green Storm Water Infrastructure



It's Stormwater Awareness Week! Did you know that roofs, paved streets, and parking lots change how water moves through our communities? When rain hits impervious surfaces, it can't naturally soak into the ground. Instead, it creates high-velocity runoff that carries pollutants straight into local storm drains, streams, and rivers—increasing the risk of local flooding and water pollution.



To protect Maryland's waterways, the state implements Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) during new development and redevelopment. These practices reduce the volume and speed of runoff, trapping pollutants before they reach our local streams and the Chesapeake Bay.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to reach out to GFTCA's own Master Watershed Steward, Scotty Hartman!

**State of the Lake:** The lake appears healthy and shall continue to serve our community positively! Those pesky beavers have not been seen or heard from, nor have we observed any effects of their presence. The paths are maintained, and the regular swimming/dip points are still clear. As a reminder, please be mindful of litter and help us maintain our beautiful community, not just by cleaning up after ourselves, but also by helping clean up something a neighbor might have dropped or missed.

## WINTER WONDERLAND

We will be once again decorating neighborhood signs around the winter holiday season this year! Some stop signs get lights, some will be dazzled by garland hanging décor. There are a lot of signs in the neighborhood, though. What we need is YOU! Reach out to the Facebook page or the webmaster email if you would be willing to help inventory and organize the decorations, and/or decorate a sign or two in your neighborhood! It might be a bit early, but we like to plan, and the decorating target is the weekend after Thanksgiving, to make sure the neighborhood feels nice and winter festive during some of the coldest months of the year.



## CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU!

- 🏡 Congratulations to our local Girl Scouts who achieved the Girl Scout Bronze Award for the beautiful garden the neighborhood enjoyed all summer at Lake George!
- 🏡 Thank you to our local craftsman for updating and building our little libraries at Tara entrance, Lake George and Brinton Park! Beautiful work!
- 🏡 Thank you to our neighbors who take it upon themselves to pick up trash and clear paths without being asked – you know who you are!
- 🏡 Thank you to all the neighbors who not only came out to enjoy Friday Nights by the Lake but also contributed time and funds to make them possible!
- 🏡 And last but certainly not least, THANK YOU to the neighbors who contributed to the updating of Brinton Park and our Annual Dues drive in January 2027.

**You all make Glen Farms & Tara the special place it is to live.**

## VOTING

The election season is upon us, folks. Always follow the instructions on your voting notifications. Your election day voting location will likely be the same for most of the community, **however be sure to read your voting information as it depends where you are registered to vote.** That said, here is your information on voting in **Maryland**:

**Early Voting:** 10/22-10/29 from 7:00am through 8:00pm

### **Early Voting locations:**

*Cecil County Administration Building*  
200 Chesapeake Boulevard  
Elkton, Maryland 21921

*The Church of Nazarene*  
2626 Jacob Tome Memorial Hwy  
Colora, MD 21917

### **Election Day:**

Cherry Hill Middle School  
2535 Singerly Road  
Elkton, MD 21921



You can locate your Maryland polling place for election day at the link below:

<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/PollingPlaceSearch>

Our Delawarean residents can find their polling place at the following link:

<https://ivote.de.gov/VoterView>

## VOTING ASSISTANCE

Do you or someone you know have difficulties getting around, to the point you may not be able to go in person to vote this year? Alternatively, do you have the ability and willingness to help neighbors out by driving them to the polls? If you would like to volunteer to help get neighbors to the polls, or if you would like help getting to the polls, which can include waiting in line on your behalf, please email me at [john.r.novak@gmail.com](mailto:john.r.novak@gmail.com) so we can help ensure everyone has the opportunity to exercise their constitutional right to vote.

## HOW CAN I HELP OUT?

**Volunteering:** Are you interested in doing more for your community? Would you like to be added to a list of volunteers we can email when we need help with a project? No obligation necessary, if you're available great, and, if not, maybe next time! If you're interested, please send an email to [john.r.novak@gmail.com](mailto:john.r.novak@gmail.com) with "GFTCA Volunteer" in the subject line so we can add you to the distribution list!

**Elections:** This December, two Director positions, the Treasurer position, and the Vice President position will all be up for election. If you are interested in serving as a member of the board, please contact us through the Facebook page, by email at [webmaster@glenfarms.org](mailto:webmaster@glenfarms.org), or email the president directly at [john.r.novak@gmail.com](mailto:john.r.novak@gmail.com).

**Donations and sponsoring:** Are you interested in sponsoring a Glen Farms community event? We are always looking for individuals who would be willing to help offset some of the costs of our events, enabling more of our donations to go toward beneficial projects. Did you know that every service available to receive your dues charges a small fee in order to process those payments? For example, Venmo deducts \$0.86 from every \$40 dues payment. That may not seem like a lot, but for 93 households, that would equate to two households worth of fees. If you would like to sponsor a year of fee-matching so we can maximize the dollars going toward community improvements, contact us through the Facebook page, by email at [webmaster@glenfarms.org](mailto:webmaster@glenfarms.org), or email the president directly at [john.r.novak@gmail.com](mailto:john.r.novak@gmail.com).



# CECIL COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION



## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

# SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026

7:30AM—3:00 PM

CECIL COUNTY CENTRAL LANDFILL, 758 E. OLD PHILADELPHIA RD., (RT. 7), ELKTON, MD

### WHAT TO BRING:

- |                        |                      |                      |                          |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| ♦ MEDICATIONS & SHARPS | ♦ POISONS            | ♦ OVEN CLEANERS      | ♦ MOTOR OIL              |
| ♦ GASOLINE & DIESEL    | ♦ BRAKE FLUID        | ♦ STAIN REMOVER      | ♦ ANTIFREEZE             |
| ♦ HOME HEATING FUEL    | ♦ TRANSMISSION FLUID | ♦ FIRE EXTINGUISHERS | ♦ OIL FILTERS            |
| ♦ KEROSENE             | ♦ ADHESIVES          | ♦ INSECTICIDES       | ♦ LATEX PAINT            |
| ♦ OIL PAINTS & STAIN   | ♦ POOL CHEMICALS     | ♦ WEED KILLERS       | ♦ LEAD ACID BATTERIES    |
| ♦ SPRAY PAINT          | ♦ AEROSOLS           | ♦ MERCURY            | ♦ RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES |
| ♦ PAINT THINNERS       | ♦ DISINFECTANTS      | ♦ LIGHTER FLUID      | ♦ PROPANE TANKS          |
| ♦ CLEANING SOLVENTS    | ♦ DRAIN CLEANER      | ♦ DEGREASERS         | ♦ FLUORESCENT LAMPS      |
|                        |                      | ♦ DRIVEWAY SEALER    | ♦ MERCURY THERMOSTATS    |
|                        |                      | ♦ FERTILIZER         | ♦ SHARPS                 |

ITEMS IN PURPLE ARE ALSO ACCEPTED AT THE CENTRAL LANDFILL AT NO CHARGE DURING NORMAL LANDFILL OPERATING HOURS (MON-SAT 7:30 am—3:30 pm)

DON'T FORGET THIS  
EVENT TAKES PLACE  
RAIN OR SHINE



GIVE US YOUR  
FEEDBACK BY TAKING  
OUR SURVEY AT  
CCRECYCLING.ORG



### WHAT NOT TO BRING:

- |                                                 |                            |                      |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| ⊗ COMMERCIAL OR HAZARDOUS WASTE FROM A BUSINESS | ⊗ FLARES                   | ⊗ BIOLOGICAL WASTE   |
| ⊗ TRASH OR CONSTRUCTION WASTE                   | ⊗ TIRES                    | ⊗ AGRICULTURAL WASTE |
| ⊗ BRUSH OR YARD WASTE                           | ⊗ RECYCLABLES NOT LISTED   | ⊗ APPLIANCES         |
| ⊗ EMPTY PAINT CANS (TRASH)                      | ⊗ EMPTY CONTAINERS (TRASH) | ⊗ REFRIGERANT UNITS  |
| ⊗ ELECTRONICS (INCLUDES TVs)                    | ⊗ EXPLOSIVES               | ⊗ SCRAP METAL        |
| ⊗ FIREWORKS                                     | ⊗ HEATING FUEL TANKS       | ⊗ RADIOACTIVE ITEMS  |
|                                                 | ⊗ RADIOACTIVE WASTE        |                      |



THIS IS A FREE EVENT FOR CECIL COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY - RAIN OR SHINE

410-996-6275

WWW.CCRECYCLING.ORG