

Spring 2020



Drum Point Light

Drum Point Property Owners' Association

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NON-NATIVE INVASIVE SPECIES

A new addition to our newsletter will be a focus on non-native invasive species, specifically those that can be found in southern Maryland and our own Drum Point community and how best to remove such species.

A *non-native invasive species* is one that does not occur in a particular environment naturally, but has been introduced by human causes either accidentally or on purpose and has developed a stable breeding population. When non-native species become invasive, they spread and smother native plants that native insects and birds depend on for food and pollination which can result in disturbing an entire ecosystem.

The non-native species we'd like to highlight in this newsletter is **English Ivy**. English ivy is an aggressive invader that threatens all vegetation levels of forested and open areas, growing along the ground as well as into the forest canopy. Vines climbing up tree trunks spread out and envelop branches and twigs, blocking sunlight from reaching the host tree's foliage, thereby impeding photosynthesis. An infested tree will exhibit decline for several to many years before it dies. The added weight of vines also makes trees susceptible to blowing over during storms.



Removing Ivy from Trees

1. Use garden clippers to cut ivy at the bottom around the entire trunk of all infested trees. The goal is to separate all ivy vines from their source of nutrients in the soil so they will die. If the ivy is not dense, you can pull it from the soil at the bottom of the tree with your hands, especially the day after it rains. On heavily infested trees with ivy vines thicker than an inch, you will need to carefully saw through the vine and carefully, gently ease it away from the bark. **TIP:** Wear gloves and long sleeves to lessen the risk of poison ivy. Many prefer doing this during the winter months when poison ivy is less virulent, and they will have heavier clothing to reduce the risk.
2. Pull all ivy vines out of the ground around the base of the tree, making a 2 feet "life saver ring" around the tree. This will protect the tree from future infestations. This is easiest to do when the soil is soft from rains; if the ground is very hard and the vines keep breaking, wait until after a rain to remove the vines. The cleared space allows you to see any emerging ivy from roots you missed. Arborists suggest laying a 2" thick leaf or wood chip mulch for three feet around the tree to preserve moisture in the soil and keep lawn mowers from getting too close to the roots. Keep the mulch 3" away from tree trunk to ensure air exchange for the bark, and you can spot any ivy trying to re-infest the tree.
3. Once cut, leave ivy on the tree. Do not pull it off because that could harm the tree. Ivy will gradually blend into the tree bark after it is cut. Check up on your tree each winter to be sure the ivy remains off the trunk.

Ginny Rice - Environmental Committee

President's Column

Tony Spakauskas, President DPPOA Board of Directors



Dear Friends,

Spring seems to have arrived early this year, and the wonderful warm weather will call us all to the many things we want to do outside, especially on a Saturday morning. But I urge us all to remember the March General Membership Meeting that will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 28th at the Drum Point Club, located at the end of Overlook Drive. This meeting is particularly important, and we should strive to have a quorum (35 memberships represented – spouses count as one membership).

On the top of the agenda will be the presentation of the nominees to fill the upcoming vacant Board positions. The selection of good Board members is vital to the future of the Community. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend so we might have a quorum for this important community event. If you are unable to attend, please stop by the office and get an absentee ballot. Absentee ballots enable us to achieve a quorum for this important function, and in this case the absentee ballot is simply a way to accept the slate of candidates to be presented (bios of the candidates are available in the office and on the website). But much better than an absentee ballot is your physical presence and the direct expression of your preferences and concerns.

The other subject of importance to the community to be discussed: the care, maintenance and possible improvement of the community beach. You will recall that at the last General Meeting, we discussed that a committee would be looking at our beach erosion situation and what can be done about it. The committee has explored alternatives. We, the Board, do not want to move forward without an indication of what the community wants, and I urge everyone to please attend and make yourself heard. Any decision reached could greatly affect those families who do not own water-front property and do not belong to the Drum Point Club. If your family uses the beach, come and express your opinion. The Board will not take action on this far reaching question without community input and support.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at this very important meeting.

Tony

General Membership Meeting

The next meeting of the General Membership is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. the morning of March 28th at the Drum Point Club, located at the end of Overlook Drive.

Association By-laws require that the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors be presented during the March meeting. If there is no quorum, this important task cannot be accomplished. A quorum requires 35 memberships be represented. A married couple represents one membership unless each of them is the sole owner of a separate lot. An absentee ballot, to accept the slate of candidates will be available in the DPPOA office. Absentee ballots can be counted toward a quorum count. Pick one up if you are unable to attend. If a quorum is not present, it will be necessary to hold a special meeting in April, so encourage your friends and neighbors to attend or pick up the absentee ballot.

A few reminders...

Remember to use your hang tag when you park at the boat ramp or other common areas in Drum Point. The tag should be displayed from the rear view mirror, with the wording placed so that it can be seen from outside the vehicle.

In keeping with the photos on the next page, please don't leave items and trash in the common areas. Someone else has to pick up after you. Remind your children to not litter, and set a good example for them by picking up trash when you see it.

If you are walking your dog, remember to pick up after them as well. Nobody should have to worry about stepping in what your dog has left behind during your walk.

One has to ask why...

Two residents took the time during a recent walk to pick up trash along the Bay Drive Causeway. While the Board has scheduled a spring-time cleanup of these areas, the efforts put forth by Rosalie Parker and Rick Smith is greatly appreciated. You'll note by the photos that they picked up a great deal of litter. Eric and Asha Andreas also take the time to pick up the trash others leave along the streets and do so on a regular basis when they take their walks. Drum Point is a beautiful community, and it's unfortunate that the bad



habits of some mean others have to spend time cleaning up after them.

It's difficult to address an issue like this, as most people wouldn't consider leaving their trash behind for others to clean up. But it would be helpful if everyone took a minute to think about what they are doing before tossing that bottle out the window, and if you are out for a walk, take along a bag and follow the example set by Rosalie, Rick, Asha and Eric.

Yes, one has to ask why some are so inconsiderate and leave their mess for others to clean up while others take the time and care enough about the community in which they live to do the right thing.

SPRING CLEANUP

The community cleanup has been scheduled for Saturday, **May 2nd**, and the dumpsters will be available to all Drum Point residents from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Please do not leave items before 8:00. Someone will be along shortly to help direct which items go into which bin.

For those of you who may be unfamiliar with the community cleanup, dumpsters are placed on the vacant lot across from the DPPOA office at 401 Lake Drive. Owners and residents can bring their unwanted items to the dumpsters.

One dumpster will be set aside for the recycling of metal, at no cost to the Association. The Association is charged a fee for the dumpster used for disposal of all other items.

This is your opportunity to recycle that old grill and anything else made primarily of metal as well as clean out the winter's accumulation of unwanted items. Please note below those things which **CAN and CANNOT** be accepted:

Items which **CAN** be accepted include:

- Stoves
- Grills
- Lawn mowers, weed eaters etc.
- Furniture
- Exercise Equipment
- Metal for recycling

Items which **CANNOT** be accepted include:

- Household trash/garbage
- Building material
- Tires
- Batteries
- Tree branches and other yard debris
- Paints, stains and other hazardous material
- Televisions and computer monitors
- Refrigerators and AC units.



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General Membership Meeting

All meetings will be conducted according to *Maryland Code, Corporations and Associations, Title 5, Sub Title 2, section (§) 5-206.1*, which states, If the number of members present at a meeting does not meet the requirements of a quorum, those present may call another meeting to meet quorum requirements. At the additional meeting, the members present in person constitute a quorum.*

*Per the DPPOA Attorney - Any and all business of the Association can be discussed at the meeting.

General Membership Meeting

Agenda

10:00 a.m. March 28, 2020

Drum Point Club

Call to Order

President's Remarks

Approval of Minutes

Committee Reports

Old Business

Beach Erosion Options

New Business

Presentation of Board Candidates

Public Comments

Adjournment