

Spring 2021



# Drum Point Light

## Drum Point Property Owners' Association

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### ANOTHER PESKY, BUT EASILY REMOVED, INVASIVE PLANT

Introduced from Europe originally as a food plant, Garlic Mustard is an invasive non-native biennial herb that spreads by seed. Although edible for people, it is not eaten by local wildlife or insects. It has a high seed production rate, out competing native vegetation. It also releases root compounds that interfere with soil fungi important to native plants, making the soil more suitable for garlic mustard and less so for everything else. It can grow in dense shade or sunny sites.

Early to mid-spring (before it goes to seed) is the ideal time to remove garlic mustard. Below are some tips for removing it from your landscape by hand.

1. Pull at the base of the plant and try to remove the entire root.
2. Pulled material will complete flowering and set seed, so be sure to bag and dispose of pulled plants (Do not compost).
3. Revisit pulled sites as often as possible to re-pull plants that re-sprout from left behind root fragments. This is especially important later in the spring as seeds develop.

For more information see: <http://www.mdinvasivesp.org/iotm/may-2003/>



Garlic Mustard - First year growth



Garlic Mustard - Second year growth

# President's Column

Mike Snapp, President DPPOA Board of Directors



At our September 2020 General Membership Meeting, a budget item was approved for a study and plan to control the erosion of our Community Beach on Beech Drive. Coastal Design P.C., a Virginia marine engineering firm, has completed the site survey and assessment, design options, preliminary plan, and projected completion costs. We will present their recommendations to the DPPOA membership at our March 27 General Membership Meeting.

I continue to ask your help in maintaining our beautiful community by eliminating litter and cleaning up after your pets. Many of our members do help by picking up litter on their walks around our neighborhoods. We have placed trash cans on DPPOA access areas on the Bay Drive causeway, the Community Beach and the River Terrace beach access. Please help by using those and by hanging on to your litter until you reach your destinations where you will usually find trash receptacles.

Past-president, Gary Heal, has been Chair of our Roads and Operations Committee for several years and has given us great support in planning and overseeing rights of way maintenance, surveying for storm damage, arranging for snow removal, and overseeing our annual paving projects. We salute and thank Gary for all he's done for DPPOA as he "retires" from that responsibility. We also want to acknowledge and thank Jeff McDonald who has been our engineering consultant to plan our repaving schedules, evaluate paving proposals and oversee the actual paving and rejuvenation of our 15 miles of DPPOA roads. As both guys take a much-deserved rest, we give them our hearty THANKS!! We will announce their replacements soon.

I hope you can join us at the General Membership meeting on March 27, 2021, at 10:00 at the Drum Point Club. We will provide safe distancing and masks if needed.

Mike Snapp

## General Membership Meeting

The next meeting of the General Membership is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. the morning of March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Drum Point Club, located at the end of Overlook Drive. Masks will be required and social distancing guidelines will be followed.

Association By-laws require that the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors be presented during the March meeting. With no quorum present at the December meeting, a vote was taken of those present per the Maryland Code governing quorums (see page 4), thereby allowing business to be conducted regardless of the number in attendance.

The Slate of Candidates for the upcoming year will be presented by the Nominating Committee. There are six seats open, and if the number of open seats is equal to the number of candidates, a motion can be made to elect the slate by acclamation, saving the cost and time it takes to process and mail a ballot.

## A few reminders that should go without saying continued...

Be mindful of the unpaved areas along our streets. Most people consider these areas to be part of their yard and maintain them as such. Please do not drive through them, back into them when you are leaving your property or park in them if they are not directly in front of your property. In particular, during rainy days, these areas tend to rut and fill with stormwater. Spring is nearly upon us, and these areas will become breeding grounds for mosquitos.

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.

Please consider others and be courteous to your neighbors, and perhaps they will return the favor and be courteous to you.

## One continues to wonder...

The photos on the right were published in last year's Spring edition of the newsletter. The piece that accompanied these photos voiced concern that people litter our beautiful community and extended appreciation to those who take the time to clean up the messes left by others.

Unfortunately, the littering continues and only so much can be done by volunteers. The Board is now considering an increase in the amount of the Mandatory Assessment in order to budget for someone to clean up the streets and causeways on an ongoing basis.

We are also checking into whether the local Boy Scout troupes may have an interest in helping as a way to earn a badge. But it is most unfortunate that we have to worry about something that should not be an issue in the first place.



## To Pre-treat/Plow or not to Pre-treat/Plow the Roads...

### That is the question!!

It may be a bit late, or at least I hope we're finished with the winter weather, but I wanted to give a rundown of how a decision is made to treat the roads when a winter storm has been predicted. There are a number of things that must be taken into consideration when trying to make the decision to pre-treat and perhaps plow the roads.

The first thing to consider is the direction from which the weather is coming. If a storm comes up the coast, we are much more likely to have a significant impact. Storms that come from the north often stay north, and while they affect Prince Frederick, we may see very little snow/rain etc. Storms coming out of the mid-west are very difficult to gage, as they can track either way. There is always the possibility that, regardless of the path, a storm can shift direction. It may be coming from the south, then "bounce" off the North Carolina coast and head out to the Atlantic.

Another item to be considered is the temperatures over the days prior to the impending storm. If it's been above freezing for several days, then the asphalt will be warm relative to the grass. This is why we sometimes see it stick to the grass but not the pavement. In addition, if the temperature is hovering around freezing, a decision must be made to pre-treat or not. If the temperature warms a bit and the predicted snow turns to all rain, the salt is washed away, and \$5,000 - \$10,000 has been spent or shall we say wasted.

In an effort to be as judicious with the budget as possible, we generally treat only the hills and causeways and usually do not plow until there has been an accumulation of three inches of snow. We may pre-treat all roads when it is obvious that we're in for a particularly bad storm, but if the forecast calls for a small amount of snow, with a warmup and sun shine to follow, we may allow nature to take its course.

As you can see, this is not an exact science; but as always, we do the best we can.



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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.* 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.

The March meeting will be held in accordance with the above Maryland Code regarding quorums.

### **General Membership Meeting**

#### **Agenda**

**10:00 a.m. March 27, 2021**

**Drum Point Club**

**Call to Order**

**President's Remarks**

**Approval of Minutes**

**Committee Reports**

**Unfinished Business**

**Beach Erosion Study**

**New Business**

**Presentation of Board Candidates**

**Public Comments**

**Adjournment**