

RIDGELY'S RECORD

A Newsletter for the Residents and Businesses of Ridgely's Delight, an Historic Community

January 2015

Community Meeting on January 7th

Our community meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 7th, at 7pm, upstairs at Sliders. A representative from the Department of Public Works (DPW) has agreed to attend this meeting to discuss the impending street sweeping plans for our neighborhood. A link to the meeting agenda can be found on our Facebook and Twitter pages. The meeting is a community-sanctioned event, and attendance counts toward becoming a Ridgely's Delight Association member in good standing.

The RDA board will hold their monthly meeting immediately after the community meeting.

If you live, work or own property in Ridgely's Delight, you are invited to attend the meetings; however, only board members can vote at the board meeting.

Parade for Martin Luther King

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade presented by Forman Mills will be held on Monday, January 19th at noon. The event will step off at the intersection of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Eutaw Street and proceed south on Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard before disbanding at Baltimore Street. The celebration for the late civil rights activist will feature high school and community marching bands, decorative floats, civic organizations, high stepping fraternities, honor and color guards, lively cheerleading squads and equestrian units.

How to Trash Your Tree

The City will pick up live Christmas trees on trash collection days throughout January. Simply set your tree by your trash can. All tinsel and ornaments must be removed from trees. For more information, call 311.

Holiday Closings

City offices will be closed on January 1st for New Year's Day and January 19th for Martin Luther King's birthday. Parking meters will not be in effect on New Year's Day.

Happy Hour at the Camden Pub

We'll ring in the New Year as a neighborhood at first Friday happy hour on January 2nd at the Camden Pub, starting around 6:30. Bring a few extra bucks for the 50/50 and stick around for karaoke. Come on out and have fun with your neighbors.

Leaf Collection Ending

The City will end its leaf collection program on Monday, January 5th. To have your leaves picked up, call 311 before Sunday, January 4th at 10pm. You can leave out up to 20 bags. In addition, trash crews will collect up to five bags of leaves on our regular Wednesday trash collection day. Put leaves in clear or labeled bags and place them next to your trash can.

Homeless PIT Count Volunteers Needed

The Mayor's Office of Human Services seeks volunteers to conduct its annual Homeless Point-in-Time (PIT) Count during the week of January 25th. Through the PIT Count, Baltimore City is able to identify homeless individuals, families and youth in order to connect them with housing and support services. For more information or to register as a volunteer, please visit www.journeyhomebaltimore.com/events.

Pre-register for YouthWorks 2015

It's that time again, time for Baltimore City residents ages 14 to 21 to apply for a summer job through YouthWorks. All job applicants must complete two important steps:

1. Pre-register online @ youthworks.oedworks.com before March 13th.
2. Attend an in-person certification appointment between January 27th and March 28th. Visit youthworks.oedworks.com for more information.

Pick-up Day Reminder

**Trash pick-up: Wednesdays
Recycling pick-up: Fridays**

Community Clean-up on January 11th

The monthly community clean-up will be held on Saturday, January 11th. We will meet at the community shed at the Burgundy Street lot at 9am. Pickles will provide free pizza and beer to volunteers afterward. The clean-up is a community sanctioned event. By participating in the clean-up, you can also receive a certificate that you can use to earn credit toward your storm water remediation fee. Visit www.ridgelysdelight.org/green for the link to the fee credit application.

Safety Tips from the Southern District

The following information is courtesy of Major Ian Dombroski of the Southern District.

Cell phone theft continues to be a big problem in our communities. If you have a smart phone, please install an application that will locate your phone with GPS if lost or stolen. We have caught many thieves and recovered many phones through this technology. Also be aware of your surroundings, try to walk with friends if possible and limit the exposure of your phone to those in public. If you are the victim of a crime, call police as soon as possible and provide detailed descriptive information on the suspect, the direction of travel and location last seen. Try to include approximate age; race; hair style, color and length; clothing from head to toe, with most important aspect being something that would stand out to responding officers (e.g., red shoes, thick glasses, walks with a limp, carrying a yellow book bag, walking with a female in leather jacket towards downtown, or on a bike south on Main Street). The more immediate information we get, the better chance we have of recovering your property and arresting the criminal.

Façade Improvement Grants Available

If you own a small business in Baltimore, you may be eligible for funds to improve your façade. These programs aim to improve the look of Baltimore's business districts while making revitalization efforts affordable for small business owners. Eligible projects include exterior paint, new windows, siding, awnings, transoms, landscape improvements and sidewalk repairs. For more information, contact Baltimore Development Corporation at 410-837-9305 or mklipa@baltimoredevelopment.com.

Run with Ridgely's

If you are looking for a running partner, look no further than your neighborhood. There is a new running group on the Ridgely's Delight Nextdoor site. By joining our private social network, you can get updates about safety, items for sale and area news as well as dates and times of the neighborhood running events. To register, visit ridgelysdelightmd.nextdoor.com.

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Ridgely's DAWG Crew

A new Facebook site has been created by a long time resident and dog owner called Ridgely's DAWG Crew. All dog owners and lovers of dogs are welcome to join. It's a great way to connect with your neighbors

Rats on the Rise

Several neighbors have commented on the recent increase in rats running through the neighborhood. Rats are drawn to trash bags containing food and other waste that are left on the sidewalk. Please remember to put your trash in a covered can when putting it outside. Not only does this help prevent rats, it helps you avoid a citation for illegal dumping.

Street Sweeping Comes to Ridgely's

The City started its mechanical street sweeping Program in April to reduce trash on City streets and the pollution and waste that goes into the urban streams and Inner Harbor. RDA learned that our neighborhood was going to be placed on the same sweeping schedule as other downtown districts. This would have required residents to move their cars every Thursday from half of Ridgely's streets and Friday from the other half of Ridgely's streets. Realizing the burden to our neighborhood with its already limited parking, the RDA president and representatives lobbied the City to place Ridgely's on a more lenient schedule. Thankfully, with the help of Councilman Costello, the City agreed to place Ridgely's on the same schedule as Pigtown in the South West Quadrant.

Street Sweeping will not begin until the appropriate signage is installed. We expect the odd side of the streets to be swept every 3rd Wednesday, and the even side of the streets to be swept every 4th Wednesday.

The signage is planned for installation in mid-January and the "enforcement grace period" will likely end at the beginning of February. Department of Public Works (DPW) has agreed to attend the January 7th Ridgely's community meeting, at which time more specific info on dates will be disseminated, and DPW will answer questions from residents.



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Last Month for the Parking Survey

Last summer, the Ridgely's Delight Association published an online and paper survey (available at the community meetings) to determine whether residents would like to change the parking rules that are currently in place throughout the neighborhood. Although only a small sample of the community responded (less than 100 people), over 80% of the respondents indicated that they wish to change the rules allowing ONLY permit or guest pass parking at night while leaving the two-hour parking for anyone unchanged during the day. The RDA plans to move forward with the process for asking Baltimore City to consider this new restriction.

Residents who wish to change the parking rules are asked to complete a second survey to indicate the preferred time for the permit-only hours to begin, either 6pm or 10pm. No matter the start time, permit-only parking would end at 8am. ***This survey is now open and will remain open until the February community meeting.*** It can be completed online at www.ridgelysdelight.org/survey or in person at the January and February community meetings. Only one survey per residence will be counted.

Next steps:

- Once a time is chosen by the community, a formal request will be sent to the city to change RPP 5 parking areas to permit only at night according to the chosen time.
- The RDA must then start a petition drive that will require 60% of all 450+ households in the neighborhood to sign for the change to pass. ***If you do not support a change to the current parking system, do not sign that petition. If you do support the change, sign the petition.***
- If the petition gathers enough verified signatures, then it will go to our city council member, Eric Costello, and make a few other approval stops before it can be implemented.

Please note that there will be no change to the rules in effect during stadium events, which include Orioles and Ravens games. As always, vehicles that do not display a parking permit or guest pass during stadium events will be ticketed and/or towed.

**Thank you to Work Printers for printing
the Ridgely's Record.**

Renovation Reminder

All renovation work requires a city permit. Additionally, since Ridgely's Delight is an historic district, work on the outside of your home requires CHAP approval prior to beginning any renovation. To review the CHAP guidelines, visit <http://www.ridgelysdelight.org/chap>

Feel free to contact the Ridgely's Delight Architectural Review Committee (ARC) with any renovation related questions at arc@ridgelysdelight.org.

Hours
Mon, Tue, Wed
 7:00am—8:00pm
Fri
 7:00am—8:00pm
Thurs
 7:00am—11:30pm
Sat—Sun
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