

# THE RIP RAP

newsletter of the edgewater estates property owners association



**TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING  
OF  
EDGEWATER ESTATES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
OCTOBER 19, 2013  
10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
MILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
121 UNION STREET  
MILTON, DE**

- The third Saturday in October is fast approaching which means it's time for the annual Edgewater Estates Property Owners Association annual meeting. The meeting will be held Saturday, October 19, 2013, at the Milton Public Library, 121 Union Street, Milton, Delaware, on the second floor. An elevator is available and you may park behind the library or across the street.
- The meeting begins at 10:30 a.m. and concludes at 12:15 p.m. Milton Library opens at 10:00 a.m. and we are allowing 15 minutes to set up the room.
- On the agenda are the President's report, Association dues, annual budget, and a question and answer period from the floor. The Board is made up of six members, each with a 3-year term. This year, the Board seat of Marlene Huguenin is open and Barbara Mudryk (Buttonwood Drive) has been nominated for the 3-year term. Nominations may be made from the floor, with the agreement of the nominee. Voting will be executed on a per-lot bases; one vote per lot owned. The Board appointed David Schiff (Buttonwood Drive) as an at-large committee member.
- The Board thanks Marlene for her 10 years of service to the Edgewater Estates Community.

## ANNUAL ASSESSMENT

The 2013-2014 annual assessment notices will be mailed January 15, 2014 . The fiscal year is October 1 to September 30. Edgewater Estates assessment is \$50 per lot. The Board changed the assessment mailing notices from late October/early November to mid-January. The change was implemented in January 2013 and proved to be successful.

## STATE POLICE HOME SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS

With fall and winter soon to come, some Edgewater Estates residents may be planning to get away to a warmer climate for a week, month ... or more. Please review the suggestions listed below from the Delaware State Police on safeguarding your property.



- ◆ Have deadbolt locks on all outer doors and secure the windows with good locks or pinning method.
- ◆ Your home should have a lived-in look; leave shades and blinds in the same position as when you are home.
- ◆ Cancel all deliveries and notify the post office to put your mail on a "vacation hold." Have a trusted neighbor or friend remove any deliveries or throwaway papers/circulars.
- ◆ Use timers to turn on and off lights at strategic locations inside your home at appropriate times.
- ◆ A motion sensor light should be installed at the rear and front of the residence. Place a radio on a timer for added precaution.
- ◆ Make arrangements to have your walk and driveway shoveled in winter.
- ◆ Move ladders, tools or other devices (that could be used to break in) to a locked garage or shed.
- ◆ Arrange for garbage cans to be placed at curb for pickup and returned to the proper location.
- ◆ Lock doors, windows and make sure broken windows, window locks and door locks are repaired.
- ◆ Secure valuables in a safe place in the home or take them to a bank safety deposit box. . . Keep an inventory of valuables including furniture, jewelry and electronic products.
- ◆ Unplug all electrical appliances.
- ◆ Set your thermostat so that your furnace will maintain a reasonable temperature in your house.
- ◆ Test your smoke and burglar alarms.
- ◆ Park your car in the driveway (back it in) or have a neighbor or friend park their vehicle at your home while you are away.
- ◆ Your answering machine message should indicate that you are home; never away.
- ◆ Disengage the automatic garage door opener (very important). Lock the garage door(s).
- ◆ Walk around the house before leaving; make sure all doors and windows are closed and locked.
- ◆ If you have an alarm system, make sure it is activated.
- ◆ Leave a house key with a trusted neighbor or friend together with a phone number and/or address where you can be reached
- ◆ Consider having a trusted neighbor do an occasional walk-through of the house to check for any leaks or storm damage.
- ◆ Neighbors - remain observant of suspicious activity in and around our development. Call the State Police @ 855-2980 (non-emergency number) to report incidents.

## NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE

Mark your calendars: Edgewater Estates yard sale will be held Saturday, May 3, 2014; rain date is Sunday, May 4. To lessen congestion and ease traffic flow it is recommended that, when possible, residents with "active" garages/driveways park their vehicles at a neighbors rather than on the roadway.



**BOAT RAMP NEWS**

The boat ramp lock will be replaced in mid-January 2014. New keys will be cut and will be available on request. The 2013/2014 dues letter will have information as to how and where to obtain keys. The Association contracted a new contractor to cut grass, trim, and maintain the boat ramp grounds. In addition, the Association has evaluated the ramp area and determined additional gravel will be needed in spring 2014. Thirty tons of gravel were added six years ago to improve the parking area. Cost was nominal.



**BOAT RAMP INCIDENT**

*This past Labor Day weekend I was visiting a resident of your community and had the opportunity to launch my kayak at the your ramp. I sure you imagine my reaction when I returned to my truck and found a note stating I was not allowed to use the ramp. The note also stated that my license number had been recorded and if I returned I was subject to having my truck towed or even arrest. Is it your policy not to allow guests of property owners to use the boat ramp?*

*Sincerely,  
Jeffrey C. Poling*

**The Board’s Response:**

Edgewater Estate residents may give permission to a visiting guest to use the EE boat ramp but are responsible for their guest’s use of the boat ramp and the key . Concerned residents should contact Neighborhood Watch or a Board member and ask them to investigate the situation. In this case, perhaps a red flag was raised because of an out-of-state plate. Whatever the reason, the person had no authority to leave that type of note; it is not the way we conduct business in Edgewater Estates.

**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

Effective October 1, David and Marcie Schiff (Buttonwood Drive), will be the new Neighborhood Watch chairs. The Board expresses thanks to Marlene and George Huguenin for their many years of chairing Neighborhood Watch.

**DOGS & CATS**

Complaints about dogs and cats running loose in the neighborhood and owners walking dogs without cleaning up after them is a never ending complaint. State and County laws state that dogs must be licensed, leashed, and cleaned-up after, and under control at all times. Cat owners should be aware that free-roaming cats are at risk. Cats are subject to poison by chemicals used on lawns, by rodent bait, and by antifreeze leaking from cars. They may be tortured or killed by a sick individual, or stolen and sold to research laboratories. Studies have documented the serious impact of free-roaming cats on the populations of birds and small mammals.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Edgewater Estates partners with the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 17 in the Adopt A Highway program. We adopted **Minos Conaway Road** from Route 1 to Route 9 and keep the road clean of trash, bottles, cans, etc. We need volunteers to help accomplish the mission. You can volunteer, one hour, one day, a day a month, or more. Call Pat Lawson at 302-644-1821. The Edgewater Estates Board appreciates any time you can give to this worth while project.



**ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICIALS: RETURN PLASTIC BAGS TO STORES FOR RECYCLING**

State environmental officials have changed their approach to plastic bag recycling. Instead of putting such shopping bags in recycling bins for curbside pick-up, residents now are urged to return plastic bags to stores where collection containers are provided. “Plastic carryout bags when put into machines of recycling centers have the unfortunate tendency to clog machines and hinder the progress of the state’s Universal Recycling Program,” the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control said in a news release.

Edgewater Estates  
Property Owners Association  
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Lewes, DE 19958  
[www.edgewaterestates.org](http://www.edgewaterestates.org)



Speeding on Edgewater Estates roadways is causing alarm with many of our residents. The SPEED LIMIT IN Edgewater Estates is **25 MPH**. Please observe the speed limit and respect our residents young and old who walk and bike ride on our streets. Residents are asked to assist Neighborhood Watch (1) by recording and reporting speeders' license plate numbers and make of car and (2) reporting to Neighborhood Watch or directly to Delaware State Police, Troop 7 at 644-5020/21.

***ATTENTION: Signs are not permitted in either of the front entrances***

#### **Board of Directors**

President: Bernard Fiegel 645-4568  
twofigs@udel.edu  
Secretary: Nancy Tartaglione 644-2653  
Treasurer: Pat Lawson 644-1821  
Vice Presidents:  
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OPEN  
Neil Schreck 644-1960

#### **Committee Chairs**

Architectural Review: John Otroba 644-0420  
Entrances & Grounds: Neil Schreck 644-1960  
Neighborhood Watch:  
David & Marcie Schiff 302-893-1451  
Newsletter: Fiegels 645-4568  
Directory and Resident Transportation Services:  
Pat Lawson 644-1821; twolaws@aol.com