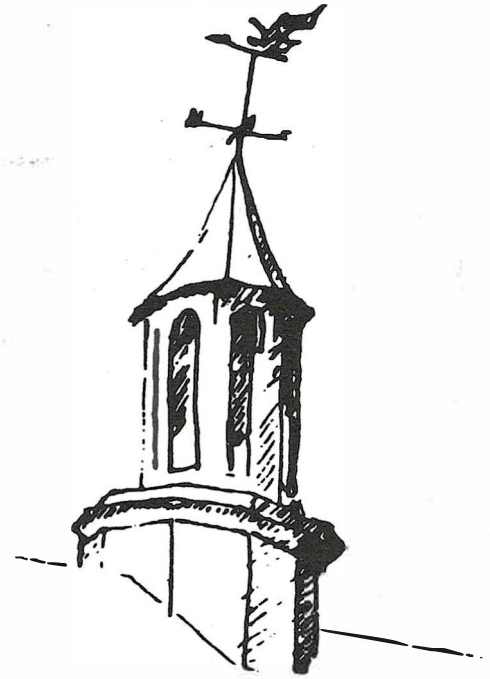


The Echo

The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904



September 2003

CITIZENS QUESTION RIGHT TO APPOINT COUNCILMEMBER By Dave Chitwood

A special meeting was held July 28 for the purpose of taking action on several items that could not be voted on at the regular July 14 Town Council meeting because of the lack of a quorum. One was the appointment of a replacement for Councilman Tom Lorenzen, who resigned on July 8.

Mayor Debbie Beers proposed at the meeting that former Councilmember Tim Maloy be approved by the Council for the remainder of the term, which expires in May, 2005. She added that although Mr. Maloy had not sought reelection, he had remained active in the affairs of the town. His most recent volunteer activities have involved the town picnic and a survey of the trolley right-of-way.

Town resident Phyllis Fordham stated that although Mr. Maloy was a fine candidate, she was opposed to the manner in which this appointment was being made. She suggested that a special election be held, which would be required had the resignation occurred earlier. She also noted that town residents were not informed about the agenda of the council meeting on the small notice placed in residents' mailboxes.

The Mayor stated that she had no choice. She noted that the Town Charter clearly indicates that "the Mayor shall appoint" a replacement, with the consent of the Council.

Former Councilmember Renny Springuel, also in

—continued on page 5

PARK PARKING OVERFLOW INFURIATES TOWNSPEOPLE By David Chitwood and Anne Lewis

Glen Echo Park Site Manager Karen Pittleman apologized to the Town Council at its Aug. 11 meeting for park personnel who "erroneously directed traffic into the town" during the July 23 ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of the restored Spanish Ballroom.

She said the ceremony crowd "overwhelmed" the park's capacity and acknowledged that the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture board needs to consider alternative parking arrangements.

Mayor Debbie Beers said this was the first time the town had been so seriously affected and wondered why barriers were not erected on entrances to the town as they had been at previous large events. "The whole town was blocked," she said angrily.

Resident Renny Springuel, who lives five blocks from the park entrance, told the Council at its July 28 meeting that he felt like a prisoner in his own house because of street congestion and parking by park visitors. The Mayor said people parked in front of hydrants, next to yellow curb lines, in front of driveways and even in one driveway.

She has clarified to the Park Service that the town streets are not under the jurisdiction of the County and that park personnel must be the ones who move the usual sawhorses to street entrances. She plans to bring up the matter at the next

—continued on page 3

THE ECHO

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♻️ *Printed on recycled paper*

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO MARYLAND

20812

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20812**

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Dan Macy 301-229-2122

Nancy Long 301-332-3823

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(301) 229-8500



Heather Cottage

Financial Planning

WEBSITE FIRM SELECTED By David Chitwood

Connecting Links was selected unanimously by the Town Council at its July 28 meeting as the website provider for Glen Echo for a one-year period.

Mayor Beers stated that the proposal from Connecting Links for website design and maintenance was presented very well and seemed best for the town. The cost was \$1,000 plus quarterly maintenance estimated to be \$250, plus some training for Clerk-Treasurer Cathie Polak on how to post material to the site.

Connecting Links is aware of the need to avoid the use of slow-loading graphics and will enable the Town to maintain a listserver for sending messages to town residents wanting such communications.

BUILDER CAN AVOID NORMAL SETBACK FOR YALE HOUSE

By Anne Lewis

Glen Echo values clashed with the bottom-line of a local developer when Meridian Homes, Inc., presented plans for a new home to the Town Council on Aug. 11.

The proposed house, facing Yale Ave. but with a Columbia Ave. address, will be able to avoid the required 25 feet front setback because of a loophole in Montgomery County law. It will also eliminate the only street parking on lower Yale Ave..

Because no other construction has been made on that side of the Yale Ave. block, the developers will only be required to set the house back a minimum of 15 feet. They propose to set it back 18 feet.

Because the five to six-bedroom house plan also includes a two-car garage, its driveway entrance takes up 30 feet of sidewalk space, leaving no room for street parking..

These were contentious issues, but, as Mayor Debbie Beer reluctantly noted, the Town Council has no legal basis to stop them. She urged the Meridian chief spokesperson, Jonathan Lerner, to take the Town Council's objections into consideration.

At the end of the presentation – and after hearing vociferous objections to the design from residents as well as Council members – Mr. Lerner said he would consider narrowing the width of the driveway and replacing trees that will need to be cut down with others “somewhere in town.”

He would not budge on the overall design, however. “I want to build a house that is marketable,” he said, insisting that the size and placing the double-garage next to the front door “is what buyers want.” He said he couldn't turn the house to face on Columbia because that would reduce the backyard to eight feet.

Councilmember Eve Arber voiced the sentiments of many Glen Echo residents when she said that the plan “is not the kind of home we want in Glen Echo. It is a suburban tract house. The town has been here almost 100 years, and it has an aesthetic that we're trying to maintain.”

Mr. Lerner, who said he was “insulted” by the remarks because the design was his, remarked that he had looked over the town “and not found any consistency in the architectural language here.”

Carol Barton, who lives across from the proposed house entrance presented documentation showing the effect of the design on parking space along Yale. Jim Beaubien, whose University Ave. house backs on the site, informed Mr. Lerner that sewer lines from his property run through the middle of the house plan, a fact that surprised the developer.

ART SHOW THIS WEEKEND AT GLEN ECHO PARK

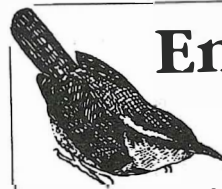
The 33rd Annual Labor Day Art Show will take place at Glen Echo Park on Aug. 30, 31, and Sept. 1 from noon to 6:00 p.m. It will be held in the Bumper Car Pavilion rather than the Spanish Ballroom, as in previous years.

An opening reception will be held at the Cuddle-Up on Friday, Aug. 29, from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

The show will feature the work of more than 150 artists, many of whom have a connection to the Park, either as students or teachers. The display will include sculpture, paintings, ceramics, glass, jewelry and other media. Most of the pieces will be for sale.

PARKING OVERFLOW (FROM P. 1)

meeting of the Partnership and will make it clear that if such parking problems persist, the town will have no choice but to issue parking stickers to residents and issue parking tickets or tow others away.



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- Feeders
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PARK FUNDRAISER GALA SATURDAY, SEPT. 20

You can celebrate the rebirth of Glen Echo Park at the "In Full Swing" Fundraiser Gala on Saturday evening, Sept. 20. It begins at 5:30 p.m. for an evening of cocktails, dinner, dessert, and delightful entertainment for \$250/person.

Or just do the dessert, dancing, and entertainment for \$75/person starting at 8:30 p.m.

The Brooks Tegler Big Band will provide the swing in the Spanish Ballroom, plus you'll have the option of contra dancing to the Avant Gardners + Two in the Bumper Car Pavilion.

The emcee will be Arch Campbell from Channel 4 News. And you won't want to miss the tango as danced by County Executive Doug Duncan and Senator Barbara Mikulski.

Support the arts in your own back yard as Glen Echo Park transitions from National Park Service management to day-to-day management by the non-profit Glen Echo Park Partnership for the Arts and Culture, Inc. These early years are critical to success of the Park.

Half the tickets have been sold already so please act now: call 301-320-7757 (GEPPAC ticket office - gala@glenechopark.org).

Even if you don't plan to attend the Gala, you can support Glen Echo Park by sending your tax-deductible donation to: GEPPAC, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, MD 20812 Attn: Donations. Call the GEPPAC office at 301-320-7757 for further information.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE LEARNING TO TANGO AT TOWN HALL

By Carlotta Anderson

County Executive Douglas Duncan and his wife, have been learning the tango at the Glen Echo Town Hall in Monday evening private lessons by dance instructor Donna Barker.

The reason for mastering the long gliding steps and intricate poses of the dramatic Argentinian dance is so the County Executive can lead Sen. Barbara Mikulski in a rousing dance at the Glen Echo Park Gala on Saturday, Sept., 20 in the renovated Spanish Ballroom.

It will be preceded by a kick-off waltz with his wife. They are practicing for that in group classes in waltz and swing on Thursday evenings at Glen Echo Park.

They will also participate in swing and contra dancing, which will be part of the festivities. "I've always wanted to do ballroom dancing with my wife and this is a great excuse to take lessons," Mr. Duncan said.

The Gala is a fundraiser to support Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture.

BANNOCKBURN CRAFT SHOW SEEKS TOWN CRAFTERS

Plans for the Nov. 2 craft show at the Bannockburn Clubhouse are well under way, with most of the space committed to artists from Bannockburn, Glen Echo and beyond.

There may be room for a few more craft persons, however. If you are interested in selling your wares--and donating a percentage of your income to the clubhouse renovation fund--please call Kitty Sherwin, (301) 229-9649.

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SPECIAL MEETING (FROM P. 1)

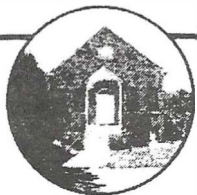
attendance, commented that his own appointment to the Council had first been proposed to the citizens in *The Echo*. He added that although Mr. Maloy would undoubtedly do a fine job, the Mayor should speak with other town residents about serving.

The Mayor replied that she had a few such discussions, but her belief was that Mr. Maloy's appointment was especially desirable. Because Mr. Macy was a newly elected member and because there is a steep learning curve for the office, she believed the Town would not be served well by two new members.

Councilmember Macy stated that he had no issue about the Mayor's right to nominate a councilmember but was concerned about whether the notice was sufficient and met the requirements of the Maryland State "sunshine law." The Mayor noted that the meeting agenda had been posted on the Town Hall door earlier in the day but she and Councilmember Macy went to check the Maryland web site on the town computer. The answer was that the agenda for a council meeting need not be specified on the notice of the meeting.

Nevertheless, the Council decided to delay the decision until the regular August 11 meeting, with a notice placed in the August *Echo* informing the citizens of the proposed appointment.

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Children 6-10 years old . . . Annex *

* University and Harvard

STORM DRAIN WORK AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Despite the fact that the weather didn't cooperate and that workers ran into many unexpected problems, the town storm drain improvement project is running ahead of schedule, according to Jeff Knutsen of the county Division of Engineering Services.

All construction activity is expected to be completed by the middle of September, he said. Landscaping of the rear yards of residents affected will be done in fall, normally around November, he said.

It was necessary to cut down two box elders above the Wild Bird Center in order to replace the pipe because their entire root system was in the trench of the pipe, he said.

--Carlotta Anderson

SURVEY MARKERS UNCOVERED By David Chitwood

Councilman Dan Macy and newly appointed Councilman Tim Maloy recently used a metal detector to locate markers placed by the surveyors of the old trolley right-of-way. The markers were at the soil surface but covered by undergrowth and not clearly visible.

They successfully located markers from the vicinity of the Town Hall to the western end of the Town, where they drove some plastic pipe to facilitate future location of the boundary. They were assisted by resident Andy Malmgren and his Global Positioning System unit.

Councilwoman Nancy Long inquired at the July 28 Town Council meeting about the location of the privacy fence recently erected by Radcliffe Lane residents with respect to the right-of-way. Councilman Macy said that the fence was about 15-20 feet away.

Mayor Debbie Beers thanked the surveying team, noting that a commercial firm had give the town an estimate of \$7,500 for performing this work.

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, September 8--8:00 p.m.

Glen Echo Town Hall

Contact the mayor to add an item to the agenda

NOT MUCH PROGRESS IN BIKE PATH PLANS

By Carlotta Anderson

The county's Division of Engineering Services is still working on a final prospectus for improvement of the MacArthur Blvd. bicycle/walking path. and expects to be able to make recommendations to director Albert Genetti of the county Dept. of Public Works and Transportation in September.

After his approval, the plans will be submitted to the county Transportation and Environment committee and the Montgomery County Planning Board, probably in October, according to Bikeway Coordinator Gail Tait-Nouri.

After a meeting in June at the Glen Echo Town Hall the officials indicated that they expected to be ready with their recommendation by the end of July. These officials have assured the town and local communities that they will be informed of the decision before the formal design phase is undertaken.

The next step will be the formal design phase, for which funding is available but no date for completion has been given. The big hurdle in this time of budget cutbacks will probably be getting funding for the actual construction. Ms. Tait-Nouri would not hazard a guess for beginning of a construction schedule.

The town has told the county it prefers Alternative #2 which calls only for a slight widening of the existing path, plus some barriers.

CABIN JOHN HOLDS CRAB FEAST SEPT. 6

Cabin John will hold its 34th annual Crab and Chicken Feast from 2:00-6:00 p.m. at the Clara Barton Community Center, 75th St. and MacArthur Blvd., Cabin John on Saturday, Sept. 6..

Tickets are \$10 at the door, and \$9 if bought in advance.

The bike parade starts at 2:00 p.m., and prizes will be awarded to all children who participate. Meet at the corner of 79th St. and MacArthur Blvd. and ride to the Crab Feast at Clara Barton Community Center.

In addition to the bike parade, features include live jazz music, a magician and balloon maker.

For advance tickets, call Clare Amoruso, 301-320-2685.

LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

*You are invited to a Ladies Night
on Tuesday, September 23*

*at Alexis Feringa's
6009 Princeton Ave.*

*Please RSVP 301-263-1254
(Some ladies have been remiss about
notifying the hostess!)*

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PARK VANDALISM NOT WORRISOME, OFFICIAL SAYS

By Anne Lewis

The amount of vandalism occurring at Glen Echo Park "is not to a degree to cause worry," Lt. Jeanne O'Toole of the Glen Echo Park Police told the Town Council Aug. 11. She admitted that the number of incidents had increased, however.

She was non-committal about increasing National Park Service police surveillance of Glen Echo Park, noting that since 9/11, "the focus has been on downtown, though we are still trying to service everyone." The park is part of the regular patrol from Chain Bridge to Great Falls and is under 24-hour watch, she said.

Mayor Beers asked why the NPS police and the Montgomery County police could not cooperate on the Park. Lt. O'Toole said NPS has responsibility for law enforcement under the Park partnership agreement. That doesn't rule out cooperation, Mayor Beers replied.



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AROUND TOWN

County Executive Douglas Duncan mentioned that his grandmother used to live in Glen Echo during the ribbon-cutting ceremony at Glen Echo Park last month. He says he doesn't know what house she lived in. A relative drove her around town before her death in 1987, but she couldn't remember which house her family rented when she was about eight to twelve years old. She was born in 1898.

For two summers in 1910, when she was about 12, she worked at Glen Echo Park selling tickets for rides, he said. She was also among the local children who were given errands to run around Glen Echo by Clara Barton, who rewarded them with five cents and iced tea on the porch.

Kyle Whyte has graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy and plans to attend the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in the fall. He is the son of Bonnie and Kirby Whyte of Wellesley Circle. At the academy, Kyle was named to the Dean's List for earning quarterly GPAs between 3.3 and 3.9. He received the Coach's Award for Swimming and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Award. He was a cadet officer in the academy's Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps.

Earl "Butch" McNoldy, who grew up on Princeton Ave., died Aug. 7 in Tampa, Fla. He was 60 and had cancer and respiratory arrest. A graduate of Walter Johnson High School, he served in both the Army and the Air Force and was in Vietnam. His father Earl "Mac" McNoldy was Glen Echo's Clerk/Treasurer for many years. His mother, Tillie, worked at the Glen Echo Post Office and wrote a column for *The Echo*. His sisters Nancy Farhood of Gaithersburg, and Sharon Kleinfelter of Danville, Va., survive him.

The Clara Barton Parkway will be closed from Georgetown to its access road in Cabin John on Sept. 20 for an event of the Washington Area Bicycle Association...

PROPERTIES ON THE MARKET

30 Wellesley Circle \$629,000

TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

July 28 & August 11

All **repeat users of the Town Hall**—those who use it more than once a month—will be invited to attend the September Council meeting to discuss their impact on the building and future use needs. There are only two to three such users...

A representative of the construction company working on the **Wild Bird Center** said that PEPCO will need to dig a small trench across the property and under the large sycamore tree in order to lay updated power lines into the building. The weight of the wires will not allow the work to go overhead, he said. The Council approved a letter okaying the work "but with great reservations because of the potential damage to the tree," added Councilman Macy.

Clerk/Treasurer Polak summarized some of the recent problems with **trash pickup**. The town will get financial credit for the one day trash was not collected; one day it was picked up very late because a truck broke down. Sometimes the Wednesday pickup of yard wastes occurs during the general trash pickup. She had the cell phone number of the contractor so she can immediately communicate problems...

The Town will hold a **fall yard sale** on Oct. 25, organized by Diana Hudson-Taylor. As last year, the participants will pay \$5 each and the Town will absorb any additional costs...

The Council approved providing a **gift for Douglas Ferris**, C&O Canal supervisor, who is retiring because of ill health. He has been an outstanding advocate for the canal, Councilmember Long pointed out...

--Anne Lewis & Dave Chitwood



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PILATES CLASSES AT TOWN HALL will continue this fall beginning Sept. 25 on Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm. The instructor is Dianne Pettie, adjunct professor at George Washington University. Focus is on mobility, flexibility, increased range of movement, and rhythmic breathing. Cost is \$20 per session. For information, call Debbie Lange at 301-320-8129.

HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT: Riverview, Unique Decks, Large lot, Spacious 6 bedroom/6 full baths. Bethesda/Brookmont near DC VA. \$799,000 or \$3,900/mo. 301-229-2001. Giftedctr@aol.com

Classified ads are free to Glen Echo residents. Fee to non-residents: \$.75 per line of 50 characters or fewer. Display ads: \$4 per column inch. Ads may be left with or mailed to the editor at 38 Wellesley Circle, Glen Echo, MD 20812. Make checks payable to: Town of Glen Echo. Deadline: 24th of each month.

FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

The following activities booked at the town hall are free for town residents:

Thursday, Sept. 4—7:00-10:00 p.m. Amer. Indian Inter-tribal Council

Monday, Sept. 8, 8:00 p.m. TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, Sept. 9, 8:00 p.m. Scottish Song & Dance Program

Sunday, Sept. 14, 3:00-5:30—Family Dance

Thursday, Sept. 18, 8:00 p.m.—Centennial Committee Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 23, 8:00 p.m.—RUDRAPATNAM BROTHERS. Traditional South Indian singers, accompanied by violin and mrudangam. Concert sponsored by Folklore Society of Greater Washington

Every Wednesday, 8:00-10:30 p.m. English Country Dance. Live music. No experience or partner needed. Sponsored by Folklore Society of Greater Washington.

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE TOWN'S HISTORY?

Did you know that there are at least five houses in town that were built from a Sears & Roebuck kit?

That and other fascinating historical facts will be revealed in forthcoming lectures and a book about the history of Glen Echo under the auspices of the town's Centennial Committee. A walking tour of Glen Echo, with information about each house, will also be published.

The committee is making big plans for the celebration of the town's 100 years of existence, which takes place in 2004.

To make suggestions for lectures, musical events, souvenirs, or any other ideas please contact Eve Arber, 301-263-0016.

VOLUNTEER LOCKKEEPERS NEEDED AT LOCKHOUSE 8

The Potomac Conservancy is recruiting a cadre of "Lockkeepers" to assist as docents at its Lockhouse 8 Learning Center. Lockkeepers will be responsible for staffing the Lockhouse on weekends and evenings, handing out literature, answering questions, and assisting with other interpretive tasks.

Volunteers will be asked to make a minimum six-month commitment. Training will be provided. This is the perfect opportunity for history buffs and those who enjoy people.

For more information, contact: Matt Berres, Director of Community Action, at berres@potomac.org or 703.276.2777 ext. 203

CENTENNIAL T-SHIRTS WILL SOON BE FOR SALE

The T-shirts commemorating Glen Echo's Centennial in 2004 will be available for sale soon. The emblem in black and white is a modification of the design on the cover of the 1891 promotional booklet published by the Baltzley brothers to encourage the sale of lots in Glen Echo.

It depicts the tower of the Glen Echo Café, which burned down in 1890, and is inscribed with the words: Glen Echo on the Potomac: "The Washington Rhine." The Baltzley brothers were fond of calling the Potomac River "our own Rhine."

The shirts will also be imprinted with the dates 1904-2004, indicating the 100 years the Town of Glen Echo has been in existence. They will be in sizes for children and adults and will cost \$15 each.



FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT

July, 2003

Town Picnic	\$301.98
Cleaning service, T.H.	\$196.00
Local Govt. Inst. Trust	\$7,046.00

(A full accounting of all bills paid and payments received is available as part of the town council minutes.)



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GLEN ECHO PARK ACTIVITIES

EVENTS AT THE PARK

DANCES ARE NOW HELD IN THE RENOVATED SPANISH BALLROOM!

Friday Night Dances—contras, square and country mixers. Beginners welcome. \$6. 8:30-11:30

Saturday Night Dances—swing, cajun/zydeco, salsa. \$10. 9:00-midnight

Sunday Afternoon Tea Dances—waltzes, swing, cajun/zydeco. \$5. 3:30-6:00

Sunday Night Dances—contra, square, folk. Forexperiences dancers. 7:30-10. \$8

ADVENTURE THEATRE

**The Gingerbread Man
Through September 7**

Weekends at 1:30 and 3:30

Tickets: \$6.00 Call 301-320-5331

THE PUPPET THEATRE

Circus!

September 13-October 19

Wednesday through Friday, 10:00 & 11:30

Saturdays & Sundays, 11:30 & 1:00

Tickets: \$6.00 Call 301-320-6668

GRASSCYCLING TIPS

Grasscycling is a healthy and natural way to maintain your lawn and save money on soil amendments and fertilizers.

The trick is to mow more often and cut less, leaving the clippings behind on the lawn as you mow. These grass clippings will break down into the soil and decompose within days while releasing nutrients and micronutrients along with organic matter, *The Montgomery County Recycler* advises.

The rules are: always mow when grass is dry, make sure your mower blade is sharp, and never cut off more than one-third of the plant's total height.

TRASH/RECYCLING COLLECTION TIMES

Tuesday & Friday--all trash, except heavyweight objects.

Tuesday--recyclables, including plastic, metal and glass. Newspapers tied or in paper grocery bags.

Wednesday--garden refuse, cut into four-foot lengths and tied, placed in compostable leaf/grass bags, or in a large trash container labeled "Recycling" and used only for yard waste.

Last Friday of the month--heavy or large quantity of discards.

If you have any trash or recycling pick up problems call Waste Management directly at 301-340-0774 and ask for Dispatch.

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