

Mayor's Message for April 2022

Hello residents of Edgewater Park!

Happy Spring, I think it's coming soon. Last weekend I traveled to Lancaster PA, right into a snowstorm, so I am always suspect as to what Mother Nature can throw our way. I do believe we and our Public Works Department enjoyed a fairly mild winter. I feel old when I say, "when I was a kid", but I do remember those snowstorms in Central Jersey where I grew up dropping multiple feet of snow. Kids always love snow, not having to shovel and missing school has its perks. Adults basically agree one snow fall a year is sufficient. Let it look pretty for a day and then no more shoveling.

As spring approaches, and I see the walkers and runners reemerge from their winter lairs and wake up from hibernation. It's the best time of year to say hello to our neighbors again. It is also a great time to rediscover our parks. By my house I have Woodlane Park, where there is a measured half mile walking track. For the warmer months, it also has a water fountain for dogs. Very cool. Across the street we have Kite Field with two baseball fields. They will certainly be seeing activity soon. I saw Public Works grooming them and getting them ready for the season. Memorial Field sports a baseball field and other open space that has been used for soccer and flag football. Our crown jewel is Weimann Field, which has multiple soccer fields, baseball fields, our Weimann club house, and a brand-new children's playground. The playground features tube slides, obstacles to climb over and everything a kid could want to play for hours. Unplug those kids from their devices and bring them to our parks!

Let's talk trash for a minute. I mean actual trash. One of the main complaints from residents is the manor some of their neighbors put out their trash. We have recently revised our ordinance. It can be viewed on the Township's web page: <http://edgewaterpark-nj.com/filestorage/173/360/449/776/778/4753/Ord. 2021-13 Amending Solid Waste Ordinance.pdf> . Basically, please put your trash in a can with a lid. Bags of debris are not permitted under the ordinance. Bulk items are picked up the first and third Thursday of the month. **You must call** in and schedule bulk pickup with Public Works. Things we cannot accommodate are construction debris, move outs and large piles of debris left on the curb. Carpet is limited to one room, cut into small rolls and put out the night before pickup. Let's all work to be great neighbors and keep our neighborhoods looking great.

Don't forget the Breakfast with the Bunny on April 9th at the Weimann club house, 9am to 12pm. There will be an egg hunt, crafts, and the kids can get a picture with the Bunny. We have been doing this event for so many years, and it keeps getting better every year. With Covid on the decrease the kids will be able to actually hug and sit with the Bunny this year. Last year we improvised, and he rode around the town throwing candy. Much better in person! Residents old and young, please stop by. If you don't want an egg, you can talk with the Committee members, catch up with old friends, and make new ones.

Happy Spring,

Mayor William Belgard III