



FAIRFAX ERUV QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2024

Your ultimate source for the latest news about the Fairfax Eruv

Fairfax is home to the Northern Virginia Jewish Community's eruv, a ritual enclosure of geographically contiguous neighborhoods to facilitate community sharing and activities otherwise prohibited on Shabbat.

The eruv project is managed by the Fairfax Eruv Committee, a nonprofit organization and exempt organization (Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code), incorporated in the State of Virginia, and is supported by the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, and members of the local community.



Rabbi Jachter's inspection – we passed with flying colors

Rabbi Jachter conducted the annual inspection of our eruv on June 23, and we passed with flying colors!

To quote Rabbi Jachter, “For a second consecutive year, the eruv was in pristine condition! Extremely proud and impressed! ”

This accomplishment would not have been possible without the dedication of all the inspectors, drivers, and others who have worked so hard to maintain the eruv – thank you, and yasher koach.

We send a special thanks to everyone who, in the heat and humidity, accompanied Rabbi Jachter on his inspection of the eruv: Melinda Hofstetter, Lucy Lapidus, Mark Lapidus, Shana Wallace, Sholom Simon, and Eliot Goldberg (for organizing the inspection).



The hospital extension is up

As has been recently reported, the hospital extension of the eruv is back up, and all repairs have been completed. If you need to walk to the hospital on Shabbat, you may now do so.

We express our gratitude to INOVA Fairfax and NVHMI for completing restoration of the eruv components impacted by the construction and to all those who helped shepherd the process (especially Eliot Goldberg and Sholom Simon).

We need your financial support!

The Fairfax eruv needs your support! Expenses to maintain the eruv run the gamut from materials to insurance to paying inspectors – and other costs.

In particular, we need more members of the community to commit to making a recurring monthly contribution. Especially if you live within the eruv and frequently use it, then we invite you to consider making one of the following commitments:

- **\$30 per month** (at \$360 annually, your contribution will earn you status as a “Members” contributor)
- **\$60 per month** (at \$720 annually, your contribution will earn you status as a “Lechis” contributor)

Please go to www.fairfaxeruv.org/donate.php to support the eruv. Thank you for generosity.

We also always need more volunteers to help with physical maintenance and more drivers and inspectors. For more information, please go to fairfaxeruv.org or email Shana Wallace at shana1020@outlook.com.

A big thanks to those who helped with the eruv cleanup!

On May 19, 2024, several members of the community braved the more untamed wilds of Fairfax (not to mention poison ivy, ticks, and mosquitos) to perform the mitzvah of cleaning and pruning overgrown sections of the eruv. A huge thank you to Susan Dilles, Shawn Dilles, Jill Allison, Sholom Simon, Rick Neifeld, Mandy Book, Shana Wallace, Sammy Branson, and Eliot Goldberg for your hard work!

NVMHI needs volunteers for gardening project

Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute (NVMHI) is working on developing gardens in and around its facility with an eye toward residences having the opportunity to maintain some of the gardens. NVMHI is looking for local community members who would be interested in helping. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Shana Wallace (shana1020@outlook.com) for more information.

We continue to engage with Fairfax City officials

Maintaining the eruv's integrity requires the support of Fairfax City and Fairfax County and the officials of various agencies and jurisdictions. Thanks to the incredible groundwork of engagement laid by Sholom Simon and Eliot Goldberg (and others), the Fairfax eruv has garnered the support of many elected officials and staff across the various jurisdictions and agencies. Of note, we continue to engage with Fairfax City as we watch the progress of several planned development projects that could impact the eruv. We are very grateful for the support of Fairfax City elected officials and staff who have taken an interest in the eruv and are committed to including the eruv in the city's future development plans.

Fun facts about Eruvim: The Fairfax Eruv's perimeter is 18 miles long.



The Fairfax Eruv Committee

Shana Wallace, President
Oren Litwin, Treasurer
Melinda Hofstetter, Secretary
Mandy Book, At-large Member
David Goldberg, Vice President

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