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Communicator

GREENBELT HOMES, INC. | A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

THE FIRST ELECTRIC CAR-CHARGING STATION IN GHI

By Beth and Ken Chandler

After deciding to buy a Chevrolet Volt as our new car, we deliberately chose to be “guinea pigs” for the installation of an Electric Vehicle Service Equipment (EVSE) unit next to our GHI reserved parking space.

The process started with Ken becoming part of a GHI ad hoc committee to develop policies on installing an EVSE unit. This was the longest part of our process but now no one else in GHI needs to do it! If you want an EVSE of your own, you will first need to file and follow procedures for GHI’s Type II Permit request (the same as for building a shed). You will then need electrical permits from P.G. County and the City of Greenbelt, which your contractor can give you direction on.

Your reserved parking space in GHI should have a space near it large enough to hold the EVSE unit, which has a footprint of about a square foot. The charging cord cannot cross or block a sidewalk or parking space. In our case, the plot of land was on City of Greenbelt right-of-way, so we also needed to file a “Construction in the Right-of-Way” form with the City of Greenbelt, and negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding with the City, defining legal responsibilities.

EVSE units themselves range from \$300 to about



Ken Chandler charges his electric car outside his GHI unit.
Photo credit: Beth Chandler

\$2000. A bollard-style unit will be toward the high end. The bulk of the full cost for most people will be excavating and installing an electrical line for the unit, which can cost many times the amount of the EVSE itself, depending on where your circuit box is in relation to the proposed EVSE unit’s location. Unless you’re in the trenching and electrical business, you will need to work with a company that will provide both the full installation as well as the EVSE unit itself. Ken spent a lot of time trying to find an electrician separately and found it impossible. The company we used contracted with a local subcontractor to do the actual installation.

It was a lot of work, but we are happy with our decision to install an EVSE for our car. We don’t expect to recoup our costs, but we have reduced our carbon footprint, so we are satisfied. If you want to look at our EVSE unit, it is located next to the parking spaces for 62 Ridge, Units E-H. If you have additional questions you’re welcome to email us at: ken@chandler.net.

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DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

By Dharma Schock



"Dharma"

Photo credit:

Gretchen Schock

6:15 am Shut that thing off already! Ugh. Why do you even bother? (*Downward dog stretch. Shake head.*)

6:30 am Now let's get up. Yes, now! Mom, I gotta go pee!!! Here's my leash – see, I brought it to you. Come on! (*Pawing Mom's face*) This always motivates her.

6:45 am Taking mom for a walk down Ridge is my favorite part of the day. You can't bark at this many buses on the inner

pathway. Ridge is where the action is...Hello GHI!!! (*Howling and barking.*)

7:15 am Mmmm, breakfast. Come on Mom, one more scoop. Please! Why do you keep buying this gluten free stuff? I don't need a diet! (*Whining.*) One more scoop!

9:00 am Bye, kids. Have fun at Greenbelt Elementary. I promise I won't sleep on your pillow today. (*Climbing onto the forbidden sofa to nap.*)

4:45 pm Mailman! Hey neighbors, the mailman is here! (*Bark, bark!*) I love that he comes right up to the front door to see me.

5:00 pm Time to walk my family around the neighborhood. Geez, is there anyone they don't know? Less stopping and talking to friends and more walking, family! Hey, I have a great idea... let's go down to the town center. Maybe someone dropped a falafel at the New Deal Cafe.

9:00 pm I'm exhausted. Whew, what a day. Tomorrow I gotta take it easy. (*Laying down at mom's feet.*) Wait, is that Olivia Pope? Mom, is tonight a Scandal night? I'm up. I'm up. Living

Member Announcements

Process for Selecting Homes for H.I.P. Work During 2016

The Homes Improvement Program is scheduled for five years, beginning in 2016. Installation of components will be scheduled for approximately 1/5th of frame and masonry homes each year. It is important to make the choices fairly, so GHI staff is using a random function in Microsoft Excel to choose which courts in each of the frame, block and brick categories will go first. Details of this process can be found on GHI's website at <http://www.ghi.coop/content/process-selecting-homes-hip-work-during-2016>.

New Member Social

New to the Co-op? Come and enjoy the warmth of neighbors and friends over light refreshments. Hosted by GHI, Tuesday August 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the GHI Board Room.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held at the GHI Administration Offices on Hamilton Place, and are open to all GHI members. Dates are subject to change.

August

1	11:00 am	Pre-Purchase Orientation
4	8:30 am	Yardlines Committee
6	7:30 pm	Board Meeting
10	7:00 pm	Member Outreach Committee
10	7:30 pm	Marketing Committee
11	7:30 pm	Historic Preservation Task Force
12	7:30 pm	Architectural Review Committee
13	7:00 pm	Board/Finance Joint Meeting
14	—	OFFICES CLOSED
17	7:00 pm	Pre-Purchase Orientation
18	7:30 pm	Companion Animal Committee
19	7:00 pm	Woodlands Committee
20	7:30 pm	Board Meeting
20	8:00 pm	Board/Finance Budget Planning
24	7:00 pm	Communications Committee
26	7:00 pm	Buildings Committee
28	—	OFFICE CLOSED
29	11:00 am	Pre Purchase Orientation

Call 301-474-6011 for emergency maintenance outside of normal hours or when GHI is closed.

Member Announcements

New Carbon Monoxide Regulations for Homes in Prince George's County

Prince George's County issued a new regulation in July 2014 that requires a carbon monoxide detector to be installed on each level of a residential dwelling in close proximity to sleeping quarters, in any residence constructed with a gas heating system, fuel burning appliances, and/or an attached garage. GHI staff is in the process of installing carbon monoxide detectors in units, per the Board's decisions on June 25th. Homes receive a door hanger notifying of the installation prior to the work being done. Questions can be directed to the Maintenance Dept. at 301-474-6011 or email maintaa@ghi.coop.

Updates to the Member Handbook

On June 11th, the Board revised GHI's suggested planting list in the Member Handbook. Replacement pages are included as inserts with your newsletter. Please remove pages identified as 39h-05/39i-05 thru 39o-05, and replace it with insert 39h-05/39i-15.