Dear Residents,

We have several important matters for your attention.

FIREWISE

With Spring just around the corner, it's time to start thinking about Firewise. Mick Newman has secured a grant for the BRMCA to once again offer chipping to the membership. He has also renewed our National Firewise Certificate.

Given the expense incurred by the BRMCA for this event, we are unable to extend this service to nonmembers. The cost of debris pickup for BRMCA members in good standing is included in the membership dues of $30.00 payable every January. Others wishing to be included in the pickup can (re)join the BRMCA per the instructions in the membership section below.

Please be on the lookout for a separate Firewise email which will detail the pickup process and include a spreadsheet for you to record the time and/or money you have spent towards Firewise related projects. Please note that we have a quick turnaround of **February 28th** to submit your information to Mick.

For your planning purposes, the next Firewise pickup is scheduled for Monday, May 8th, 2023.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership dues remain at $30.00 per family and are payable every January. As a volunteer organization, we need you! Your membership helps support our mission to "preserve the unspoiled beauty of the mountain and protect the resources of forest, water and wildlife." Working together with other regional conservation groups, we strive to positively influence policy and decision making that directly impacts our community. Representatives from the BRMCA stay connected with state and local officials on issues concerning planning, zoning and commercialization.

The BRMCA board has been working diligently towards these efforts and we thank you for your support.

If you are a member, please check to be sure your dues are current! If you are not currently a member, please consider joining. We need you!

Checks should be made payable to BRMCA and mailed to the address below:

BRMCA
P.O. Box 303
Bluemont, VA 20135

ZONING

The next public hearing for the Zoning rewrite will be held on Tuesday, February 28th, 2023 at the Loudoun County Government Center, 1 Harrison Street SE, Leesburg at 6PM.

This is currently the most important topic for the BRMCA as the outcome will impact our mountain community for many years to come. Your attendance will have an impact and if you would like to speak to the Mountain Overlay District concerns, please consider signing up. The Board of Supervisors continues to be receptive of our collective voices. Our BRMCA President, Bill Waite, has been attending working sessions and meetings for the latest Loudoun County Zoning Rewrite, along with other conservation organizations such as Friends of the Blue Ridge Mountains and The Piedmont Environmental Council. We are thankful for his efforts on behalf of our association and its members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The BRMCA General Meeting will be held in May at Bear's Den. We are working on getting a guest speaker to attend and update residents on the latest news regarding the Broadband effort. We hope to have a date for you soon to put on your calendar.

Lastly, we are busy planning our next social. Be on the lookout for more information in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

The BRMCA Board