

T H E MAYFIELD NEWSLETTER

A HAMLET IN THE HEART OF TOWN

SUMMER 2009

Mayfield's Fun
Summer Evening
Homecoming

.....
A N N U A L

**BLOCK
PARTY
2009**

JULY 10TH 6PM
.....

**It's almost here! Cue the band!
Ready, Set, Go!**

July 10th is Mayfield's outdoor summer get-together complete with food, fun, music, memories and meeting neighbors – old and new. In addition to the tried and true Block party fare, this year's Block party will feature our first ever "Mayfield's Best Cupcake Contest" – complete with celebrity judges. We'll also have "Let's Recycle Challenge Games" for all ages. Fun relay games will occur between 7

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The President's Letter

As spring turns to summer in Mayfield, I look forward to wrapping-up some community spring cleaning activities of planting summer annuals at the Mayfield/Montebello gateway walls, placing watering bags at the newer trees (if you have a tree with one of these bags near your home consider yourself as its steward and fill the bag weekly through the slit at the top), weeding planting beds and mulching. This year we expanded our activities to include making much needed improvements to the tot lot on the Maryland State Boy Choir grounds. Through a grant from Harbel and Baltimore Community Foundation, more than 35 neighbors pitched in, literally, to move 32 cubic yards of play ground mulch (yes, there's a difference in mulch), repair broken swings and mend the fence. A reminder is needed here in that the tot lot is to be used by ages 5 and under. Please remain young at heart, but mindful of your weight. Three broken swings were replaced due to inappropriate use by over 5 year old visitors.

With the spring activities wrapped up, our attention turns to the most beloved of traditions, the Block Party. Led by the long serving guidance of Maria Lukianczuk, board members take on the tasks of chairing a block party table. We can look forward to the return of favorite features such as the City Municipal Band (see flyer), great pit beef, snow balls, plant table and great finds at the white elephant table. Bring your gently used unwanted items to the table where Tom R. will work his salesman charms and recycle it at someone else's home. Recycling is the theme for this year's block party. We will have recycling bin raffles, have recycling bins for use, and a few big and little kid recycling games. Our second grant award of the year is for promoting the one-on-one recycling program and encourage recycling. As part of the grant, we will take a survey of the current recycling participants and work toward increasing participation. The block party will continue the tradition of planting a tree to add to our Mayfield memory grove to honor the great community members who have are no longer with us or moved away. This year we will honor long time residents Dorothy Dobbyn and the Moriconis who have enriched our neighborhood and given so much of themselves. Take

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[www.mayfieldassociation.org](http://www.mayfieldassociation.org)



(cont. from pg. 1)

## BLOCK PARTY

and 8 p.m. Kids, you won't want to miss this.

### Calling all bakers!

Baked goods table is one of our most popular sales tables. Mayfield bakers are asked to donate home-baked or store-bought items for sale. Just bring your cookies, brownies, quick breads and cakes/pies by the Bake Table at the Block party.

### Mayfield's Best Cupcake Contest

Our First Annual Mayfield's Best Cupcake contest, will surely become a new tradition. Bring your best cupcakes – a minimum of a dozen cupcakes with each entry-- to the Mayfield tented table between 6 pm and 7 pm. Pack them in a box marked with your name, phone and 'the name of your cupcake' recipe. Yet-to-be-named celebrity judges will determine the 'best' in several categories of their choosing. Winners will be announced at 8p.m. There will be a prize for the Overall Champion - Mayfield's Best Cupcake. All cupcakes not eaten by judges will be for sale after the judges report their decision.

### Volunteer roles – we need your help for Block party day.

It's easy. It's fun. We want you! We need a crew of volunteers for all sorts of block party roles. Give Mayfield an hour or two and help make the 2009 block party one of the best! Hey Mayfield teens, there are some great assignments here for you!

Set up – tables, chairs, etc – 10 volunteers is good; more is even better.

Kid's games – need 3 more volunteers. This is especially for the littlest residents. Parents?!

Food sales of all kinds – 6 volunteers.

Bake Table – need 2 more volunteers.

Security – Need a team of adults for monitoring access and use of Maryland State Boychoir restroom facilities.

Clean up and break down – the more the merrier and the faster breakdown chores are completed.

Service credits available for students needing to acquire community service hours. Call 410-366-2085 to volunteer, more info or write to mayfieldupdate@gmail.com



There are so many ways to volunteer for Mayfield – whether you've got an hour a week or an hour once a year – Mayfield can use your help in a variety of ways. Here are a few of the cool volunteer opportunities that are available for Mayfield right now! See one that interests you? Write to [Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com) to get more information.

### Community projects:

Mayfield's Playground on the grounds of the Maryland State Boy Choir looks really spiffy these days. Thanks to over 35 volunteers who moved a mountain of mulch on the morning of Saturday, June 27th. We even had a dozen 'specialists' on hand to test the equipment and check out the play-ability of the new surface. The young children helped with mulch, but did a great job keeping all focused on why the work was being done. Mayfield received a small grant to support in part the cost of the new playground safe mulch, volunteer power ruled the day. The Mayfield parents committee with Hilary Roberts King, Martha Anderson and Sarah Koser and many others organized volunteers and refreshments. Others in Mayfield –even some without children – helped for the morning

### More People Power:

We don't need to leap tall buildings or move at the speed of bullets, but we need some super-people to help restore the Lake Montebello column. A traffic accident knocked over the column at the entry walls off Harford Road to lake Montebello – Curran Drive. Our thanks to Mayfield resident and contractor Sam Mirable for offering his professional assistances on this project. HOWEVER, we need people power to complete the job. Watch [Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com) for when this project will get underway.

Our thanks to HARBEL and to Baltimore Community Foundation for a small grant to support both of these projects for materials and volunteer refreshments. Now it is a people power job to complete these projects in Mayfield.

### Leadership roles:

**Mayfield News Editor** -- Be one of the communications team volunteers and be a lead volunteer for the printed Mayfield News that comes out 4 times a year. Always wanted to be a journalist? This is a cool way to fulfill that dream.

**House and Garden Tour Chair or co-chairs** – 2010's House and Garden Tour will be bigger and better than past efforts, but it needs a dynamic leader (s) that can pull in other volunteers, work with a committee and coordinate the many aspects of the 12th Mayfield House & Garden Tour.

**Web consultant** – Communications chair for MIA needs a web design consultant to answer her real time questions. Can you help with technical assistance needs? Write to [mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldupdate@gmail.com) to find out more.

**Traffic Calming committee** – a healthy discussion about traffic calming proposals

# UPDATE



occurred on Mayfield Update this spring, so now is the time to devise an action plan. Join a traffic calming committee to develop viable proposals, interface with city departments with the responsibility for these matters. This is an ad hoc committee of the Mayfield Improvement Association. The closing of the Harford Road bridge, planned road improvements on Harford to 25th Street and other factors make this committee's work timely and important.

**Mayfield's New Fall Block Party near Lake Montebello** – MIA received a small grant from the Baltimore office of Promotions and the Arts and PNC Bank to support a fall block party. Want to be on the planning team? Talk about planning for fun!

### Event volunteer assignments

**July Block party** – full range of volunteer opportunities

- Kid's activities and Let's recycle games
- Work a food or beverage booth for 1 or 2 hours
- Work at a retail table – plants, baked goods
- Bring white elephant treasure
- Bring baked goods for sale
- Set up/break down

Service credits available for students needing to acquire community service hours. Call 410-366-2085 to volunteer, more info or write to [mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:mayfieldupdate@gmail.com)



## Mayfield Newsworthy



### Where's the Directory?

The directory is a big project and the volunteers putting it together thought it would be ready for the May general membership meeting, but alas – layout was more complicated than expected. So, for those that paid their dues, your directory will be delivered to you by our trusted Mayfield volunteer delivery crew. Anyone else can get them at the Block party when your dues are paid!

### Speaking of Dues....

Thanks to the 70 Mayfield households that mailed, dropped off or brought their dues payment to the general membership meeting. There's still time! And for you to receive the new Mayfield Directory, you need to be a dues paying member. \$20/yr [\$10 for households over 62] gets you a directory and a strong Mayfield Improvement Association able to take on community projects that keep our beautiful community a very good place to live. Make checks payable to Mayfield Improvement Association or MIA and send or drop off at 2201 Mayfield Avenue, Baltimore 21213 or bring by the Mayfield Table at the July Block Party

### Facebook – Social Networking

Mayfield has a Facebook page. If you're on Facebook, add Mayfield Update as a Friend. You'll find this yet another way to plug into interesting things Mayfield neighbors are doing and community activities. Some 95 Friends are on the Mayfieldupdate Facebook page now. Find us at <http://www.facebook.com/mayfield.update>



(cont. from pg. 1) **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

a few minutes to help root your memories on the block party and neighbors and assist with planting a tree.

Following the block party we will jump right into other impactful events around Mayfield. These include tracking down additional information for the City's plans for traffic-calming, beautification and reduction of run-off for Harford Road. We'll share updates as we receive them for this and Herring Run Park Master Plan. We will round out the summer through you support and ideas for a new Mayfield tradition of a Fall Block party on the lakeside of Mayfield partially funded through a third grant from the City. An organizing committee is forming now to make this a unique and memorable event.

Opportunities for participating and input abound. I look forward to working with you on a great summer turning to a great Fall in Mayfield.

**Herring Run Park**

**Soccer teams use of the park**

In April Tony Anello and I had a follow-up meeting with Recreation and Parks to address concerns regarding park permit users. We met with Portia Harris, Mary Pat Clarke, the director of the Latino Soccer League, Angela Fraser of the Mayor's office, and representatives from Baltimore City Recreation and Parks. We reiterated the neighborhood concerns of all day tailgating, driving on the fields, changing in public, parking violations and trash. The permit process review and monitoring will be a part of the Mayfield Board work concerning park rule abuse.

We live in a great neighborhood and with your help we'll make it the best it can be for all of our families – young and old.

- JoAnn Trach Tongson  
President



# Northeast Police District Headquarters Open House Activities & Contacts

The Northeast Police District hosted their "Open House" at District Headquarters on Argonne Drive. During the open house, citizens were invited to visit different areas in Police Headquarters and learn about specialized programs: recruitment, communications, crime lab, Comstat, cameras, Citizens On Patrol, explorers etc.

Some citizens of Northeast Baltimore went on a ride-along with the Northeast Police District's beginning at 4 p.m. The District met their goal that all patrol cars have a citizen riding-along. [Note: This ride-along information was distributed on Mayfield McGruff in late May.]

For more information contact: Deputy Major Darryl DeSousa at: Darryl.DeSousa@BaltimorePolice.org , Officer David Blumberg at: david.blumberg@baltimorepolice.org, Officer Joe Banks at: Joseph.Banks@baltimorepolice.org, or Sgt. Chris Tserkis at: chris.tserkis@baltimorepolice.org



**Link to City Zoning Regulations**

Residents who have questions about fencing, signs, home improvements or other issues regulated by city zoning codes can log onto this website for answers:

[www.ci.baltimore.md.us/government/legislature/zoning](http://www.ci.baltimore.md.us/government/legislature/zoning)

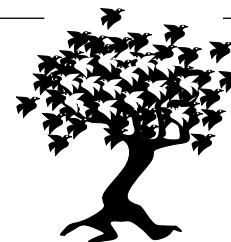
**Northeastern District Police**

410-396-2444

**Northeastern District Police  
Community Relations**

410-889-6449

(Non-emergency number)



Mayfield Improvement Association

**New Officers & Board for 2008-2010**

President – JoAnn Trach Tongson  
mayfieldboard@gmail.com

Vice President – Janelle Cousino

Treasurer – Paul Hertzberg

Secretary – Stephanie Buttner

**Board Members**

Andy Bukowitz

Emily Chalmers

George Frazier

Gary Rahman

Tim Schneid

**Committees**

NECOP coordinators  
– looking for coordinators

Housing/Zoning Chair – Gary Rahman

Nominating Committee – George Frazier

Community Planning for Security & Safety  
– Andy Bukovitz

Newsletter editor – Janelle Cousino

Newsletter graphic design – John Sze

Communications committee  
(Website, McGruff, Updates etc)  
– Janelle Cousino (mayfieldupdate@gmail.com)

Parks/Streams & Planting/Greening committee  
– looking for chairperson

Block Captains  
– Angie Battaglia and Janelle Cousino (conveners)

Children's Social Events  
– Courtney Bartlett and Marjorie Anderson

House & Garden Tour – open

Norman/Lake Ave Play Lot parents committee

Mayfield Block Party – Maria Lukianczuk

All board meetings are open. If you'd like to attend, we ask you let the President know so that the host of the meeting can make adequate arrangements. Interested in volunteering for a committee? Email mayfieldboard@gmail.com to let us know.



## Trash Talk

### NEW TRASH & RECYCLING COLLECTION DAYS

Mayfield's new trash and recycling days have changed. Mayfield's days are different days and it depends on which side of Harford Road you live on! The Lake Montebello side of Harford Road has trash day on Thursday and recycling on Tuesday. The Other-side of Harford Road has trash day on Friday and recycling on Wednesday. Got that?

New dates apply the week starting Monday, July 13th. If you're not sure, call 311 for your new days of service or visit these websites to learn your new days of collection: [www.baltimorecity.gov](http://www.baltimorecity.gov) or [www.CleanerGreenerBaltimore.org](http://www.CleanerGreenerBaltimore.org)

You may also ask [Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com) for confirmation.

## Be Up-To-Date On Mayfield Matters

[Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com](mailto:Mayfieldupdate@gmail.com) and [MayfieldMcgruff@gmail.com](mailto:MayfieldMcgruff@gmail.com)

If you're not on the Mayfield list serve already, you aren't getting up to date info on Mayfield happenings. This is a neighbor to neighbor moderated communications program of Mayfield Improvement Association. If you would like timely community news and security alerts in between the quarterly Mayfield News, this is a good option. Just send an email to both address with SUBSCRIBE in the subject box and the List serve Editor will include you on the distribution. Some of the liveliest issue discussions in the past six months were: Referrals for contractors, traffic issues, Something fishy (disappearing fish from fish pond), doggie etiquette in Mayfield and Herring Run soccer field issues, especially on weekends.



NEIGHBOR  
TO  
NEIGHBOR

Got DTV conversion trouble?

Mayfield resident John Dorsey is volunteering to help anyone having trouble with the Digital TV conversion. Call him at 410-235-0848 or email at [john.dorsey@verizon.net](mailto:john.dorsey@verizon.net). John is connected with SOUNSCAPE Audio/Video.

## Herring Run Watershed Association

### Disconnect your downspout.

HRWA is continuing its water quality project for Herring Run and the Chesapeake Bay. They recently were awarded a grant to support their work. How does this affect Mayfield? One highly effective thing you can do is to disconnect your downspout. Our homes, especially along Lake Avenue are on the main storm sewer line feeding into Herring Run. We can reduce runoff of pollutants and sediment, by having our roof water flow onto our lawns rather than into the storm sewer. It is that simple.

In fact, here's their suggested action list to support the watershed and the Bay.

Your actions plus the efforts of others makes a difference to the watershed. Go to <http://herringrun.org/ActSectionTakeAction> for the list with links to these suggestions.

### In your Neighborhood:

- Request a street tree
- Install a rain barrel
- Become a Weed Warrior
- Become a Neighborhood Tree Steward
- Clean up an alley, street, or stream
- Become a Stream Steward and report stream problems

### At your Home:

- Disconnect your downspout
- Install a rain barrel or rain garden
- Plant a tree on the street or in your yard
- Plant a native garden
- Remove invasive plants
- Conserve energy
- Advocate for green policy and projects



# RECYCLE

IT'S THE SMART THING TO DO!

Many in Mayfield recycle already. When Mayor Dixon came to the Mayfield general membership meeting she was impressed with the high percentage of residents in attendance that indicated that they regularly recycle. But the city is hoping we can do even better. The Baltimore Community Foundation awarded Mayfield a small grant to inform Mayfield about recycling and encourage more to do it. The city's decision to change our trash pick up to once a week, but to increase recycling pick up to once a week, has made the incentive to recycle even stronger.

The new trash pickup rules limit our trash to 96 gallons a week (approximately three big trash cans). This should be plenty, especially if recycling becomes a bigger part of our routine. There is no limit to how much we can recycle!

Mayfield will sell recycling bins at the July Block Party. Arrangements have been made to have recycle bins sold at local businesses on Harford Road right here in Mayfield. Other locations are Herring Run Watershed Association's HQ at 3545 Belair Rd. Baltimore, MD 21213 (410-254-1577). But Baltimore City DPW says that if you don't have a recycle bin, you may place items to be recycled in a cardboard box, marked container of your choice or a brown paper bag. It couldn't be much easier.



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### Here's what can be recycled:

Newspapers, Catalogs, Non-Metallic Wrapping Paper, books and Magazines; Clean Paper- All Colors and Types, Envelopes, Clean Cardboard, (Not waxed fast food containers), Metal Food and Beverage Containers, Glass Jars, Soda Bottles, Clean, Aluminum Foil & Pie Pans, Milk Jugs and Plastic Bottles

### Non-Recyclables – these items are part of your trash.

Styrofoam Plates, Cups, or Take-Out Cartons Used Napkins,

Tissues & Paper Towels

Food Scraps

Wire hangers

Pots, Pans, Cutlery and Broken Glass

Empty Paint Cans,

Old Rags and Clothing – donate to some organization

Plastic bags (grocery store may accept for recycling)

### Why is Recycling Important?

Did you know that you can help the environment in a lot of ways by recycling various materials.

### What is Recycling?

Before you know about the importance and benefits of recycling and its relation to a better environmental condition, it is essential to understand what is recycling. Recycling refers to the process of collecting used materials which is usually considered as 'waste' and reprocessing them. In this process these used materials are sorted and processed to be used as 'raw materials' for the production of new products. Recycling varies from 're-use' in the sense that while re-use just means using old products repeatedly, recycling means using the core elements of an old product as raw material to manufacture new goods. Some of the most common items that are recycled are plastic, glass, paper, batteries, aluminum etc.

### Why I Should Recycle?

The importance of recycling can be observed in multiple ways. If you are wondering in your mind as to "why I should recycle" then here are some causes which

should convince you to do so.

### **Recycling Saves Energy**

When new products are manufactured from the raw material obtained from recycled products, it saves a lot of energy which is consumed for the production. When new products are manufactured from 'virgin materials', the amount of energy consumed is much higher. Besides, the energy required to acquire and transport the 'virgin' raw materials from their origins or natural sources is also saved. Add to that the energy which is required to clean and protect the environment from the pollutant waste products, especially those which are non-biodegradable (plastic) and fill up the landfill areas.

### **Recycling Saves Environmental Conditions and Reduces Pollution**

Recycling helps in preventing global climate change to a great extent. By minimizing the energy spent on industrial production, recycling also helps in reducing greenhouse gas emission. Some of the major fossil fuels used in most industries include coal, diesel, gasoline etc. All these emit harmful gases such as methane, sulfur dioxide, carbon-dioxide to the environment. The processing of fresh raw material also creates toxic materials which pollute the environment. By reducing the energy used, recycling also minimizes the amount of fuel usage which in turn reduces the amount of harmful pollutants in the environment.

### **Recycling Saves Natural Resources**

We know that recycling involves the processing and usage of the core elements of an old product for the production of new products. This helps in saving our natural resources to a great extent. For example, once an old newspaper is recycled we do not need to use the resource of another tree to produce new paper products. This way, proper recycling can help us preserve our

natural resources for our future generations and maintain the balance of the nature.

### **Economic Benefits**

Similar to energy and natural resource, recycling also helps in saving a lot of expense, demanded for the production of new products from 'virgin' materials. These expenses include the entire production cycle starting from acquiring the raw materials, transferring them from their origin to production places, processing and manufacturing costs.

Recycling process creates employment opportunities for a lot of people, involved in the various stages of the process. This in turn contributes to the economic development of the state or country.

### **Recycling Saves Space for Waste Disposal**

Most of the landfill sites are filled up with a lot of waste products that could have been recycled effectively. Some of these

waste materials belong to non-biodegradable category which takes a long time to decompose. Recycling enables proper usage of these waste products and saves space for landfills. The pace with which landfills are getting filled up, soon we might run short of landfills unless we start following recycling at our own home and spread the word to others.

*– Adapted from an article originally written by Paramita Ghosh*



## **HALF PRICE DEAL!**

### **Recycling pays at the Mayfield Block Party!**

The city expects to make money on the recycling – always a good thing in a budget deficit era. But it not only helps the planet it can pay short term benefits for you too. To reduce the trash at the block party, Mayfield will feature a recycling angle to our own event. Block party attendees have 2 ways to save on soft drink and tea/lemonade purchases at the block party. 1. Bring a glass from home and get a recycle sticker from the Mayfield table, OR 2. Buy a Mayfield water bottle at the Mayfield table for \$1. Either way will get you drinks at half price! Save the planet, save money while having fun. How great is that!

### **Want to have even more fun with recycling?**

Come to the Let's Recycle Games at the July Block Party. Fun and prizes will be going on from 7 – 8 p.m. or until all have had a chance to play. Kids of all ages won't want to miss this.



# Sounds Of Summer

## **B-z-z-z-z! Whack!**

Mosquitoes are the most annoying thing about summer. Mosquitoes carry many diseases and kill more humans than any other animal or bug in the world. A female mosquito can lay about 100 to 300 eggs at a time and most mosquitoes do not wander more than a mile from where they breed. The average lifespan for a female mosquito is 3 to 100 days. Mosquitoes do not feed on blood, but the female mosquito requires blood for the development of her eggs. Female mosquitoes lay their eggs in multiple water containers. Here are some tips to reduce the mosquitoes breeding in your yard.

1. Start by emptying all sources of water in plant containers. Drain the overflowing water out of pots.
2. For ponds, buy mosquito eating fish such as Shubunkins, Sarasa Comets or Koi. Mosquito eating fish can eat up to 500 mosquito larvae per day. Check local regulations for your area.
3. Attract bats. Place a bat house in your yard. Bats can eat up to 600 mosquitoes in one hour.
4. Use mosquito control products in your pond. Most are safe for fish and plants.
5. Get a waterfall, aerator, spitter or fountain. Mosquitoes only lay eggs in stagnant water. They will shy away from moving water. Make sure your pool is aerated and chlorinated or covered.
6. Empty wading pools, wheelbar-

rows, tires, trash can lids, recycle bins, and gutters. Remove the debris from gutters to keep the water from collecting.

7. Check standing water in puddles and ditches in your yard. You can purchase a sump pump to drain ditches.

8. Keep your grass cut regularly. Mosquitoes also breed in outside pet dishes. Make sure you change the water daily.

9. Check your bird bath. Change the water at least twice a week. Also clean the bird bath.

10. Use insect traps. Insect traps can reduce mosquitoes in your yard if used regularly.

11. Fill or cover any containers that hold water to keep the mosquitoes out.

Find out more at: [http://www.ehow.com/how\\_4824943\\_reduce-mosquitoes-yard.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_4824943_reduce-mosquitoes-yard.html)

## **Citronella Candles Effective in Keeping Mosquitoes Away**

The following steps can protect you and your family against insect bites and the West Nile virus from mosquitoes:



Stay clear of areas that attract pests. Stinging insects favor bushes, rotting fruit, and decaying logs or stumps. Mosquitoes breed in standing water. Bees and wasps also like garbage. So, keep your garbage outside in covered cans.

Consume sweet-smelling foods and drinks inside, when possible. These attract insects. For the same reason, skip sweet-smelling colognes, soaps, and lotions when you'll be outside.

Avoid the patterns and textures insects favor. These include floral prints, bright clothing, and shiny jewelry.

Use a mosquito repellent. The longest-lasting repellents contain the chemical DEET. For children, stick to a 10% solution and never apply it to a child's face, hands, or irritated skin. Avoid putting DEET on an infant. Instead, place your baby in a carriage, and cover it with mosquito netting.

Light candles at night. People who lit citronella candles had 42% fewer bites than those who stayed in the dark. However, even regular candles reduced bites by 23%.

Design your garden to be less attractive to bees. They seem to especially like yellow and white flowers. But they find reds less attractive than other colors.

If a wasp or bee threatens, move away slowly and quietly. Avoid waving your arms, swatting, or running.

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