

Disposing of Yard Waste

It's that time of year for outdoor cleaning projects. Please keep in mind:

- Brush and tree limbs must be cut into 4-foot lengths, bundled with rope or twine, and should not exceed 50 pounds.
- Tree limbs larger than 6 inches in diameter and 4 feet in length will not be collected.
- Grass clippings, leaves and twigs can be placed in paper bags or personal containers.



Place refuse at the curb **no earlier than 4:00 p.m.** on Tuesdays, but **before 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays**, and remove containers as quickly as possible after collection.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

WWW.OCCOQUANVA.GOV • INFO@OCCOQUANVA.GOV

TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

314 Mill Street
P.O. Box 195
Occoquan, VA 22125

CARRIER ROUTE
OCCOQUAN, VA 22125

Presort Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Occoquan, VA
Permit No. 19

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVII, ISSUE VIII 703-491-1918

August 2020

TOWN COUNCIL

Earnie Porta, Mayor
Jenn Loges, Vice Mayor
Krys Bienia
Cindy Fithian
Laurie Holloway
Eliot Perkins



TOWN HALL STAFF

Kathleen Leidich, Town Manager
Adam Linn, Chief of Police
Katy Nicholson, Town Clerk
Kathleen Dellinger, Town Treasurer
Julie Little, Events Director
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Pam Holbert, Administrative Asst.

Mayor's Letter

There is simply no denying that for many the summer thus far has been difficult. We are still operating under the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic and society at large is facing a number of challenges from which we here in Occoquan are not exempt. Additionally, the summer heat has been oppressive. It is easy to lose heart during such times, but these are also when character, commitment, and compassion manifest themselves and often have the greatest impact. Better times are on the horizon, so let us all please try to remain hopeful, look out for each other and our community, and strive to be the best of ourselves.

As a result of restrictions on the size of social gatherings and out of concern for the health of our community, we have reluctantly found it necessary to cancel the fall Occoquan RiverFest and Craft Show scheduled for the last weekend in September. But I am pleased to report that we are proceeding with our concerts and movies in River Mill Park, which we hope you will find convenient to attend. Our next concert will be at 7:00 p.m. on August 7 and our next movie will be on August 22 at approximately 8:30 p.m. This last will be part of our reimagined *Discover Occoquan* event, which this year features a variety of virtual and outdoor activities stretched out over a week's time to accommodate the challenges we face in hosting social gatherings. We are striving in all of these Occoquan events to set them up in a manner that makes social distancing obvious and easy, and we will enforce appropriate safety requirements, including the wearing of face coverings, so please plan to attend if you are able.

I would like to close this month by thanking the over one hundred people who participated in the Occoquan Virtual 5K and also thanking the Occoquan Merchants' Guild for assisting us in the dissemination of \$30,000 in grants funds to Town businesses through our micro-grant program. Prince William County provided the funding for the latter and every Town business that met the application deadline was deemed eligible and received an equal amount. As always, thank you for your support and perseverance and please feel free to contact me at epor-ta@occoquanva.gov with any questions or concerns.

Earnie Porta, Jr.



This year, instead of just one day to celebrate our Town businesses, we're extending **Discover Occoquan** to a whole week! Town businesses will sponsor a variety of virtual and outdoor activities, demonstrations and exhibits.

We'll kick off the week on August 17 with a Facebook Live event at 6:00 p.m. Friday through Sunday, join Occoquan Spirits for a Haunted Pub Crawl and Ghost Tour! To wrap up our fun-filled week, we'll also host a socially-distanced screening of *The Princess Bride* in River Mill Park on Saturday night!

Details at occoquanva.gov.



Join us on **Friday, August 7**, at 7:00 p.m., in River Mill Park, for a concert by dance/rock band The New Thirty. Don't forget to order your To-Go from your favorite OCQ eatery! Social distancing guidelines will be in effect for this event.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK OCCOQUANVA.GOV OR CALL 703-491-1918 FOR UPDATES.

AUGUST 4
Town Council
Regular Meeting
7:00 p.m.

AUGUST 7
Concert in the Park
River Mill Park
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

AUGUST 20
Meals and Transient
Occupancy Taxes Due

AUGUST 22
Movie Night
The Princess Bride
River Mill Park
Begins Around 8:30 p.m.

AUGUST 25
Planning Commission
6:30 p.m.
Architectural Review Board
7:30 p.m.

Meetings are held at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, unless otherwise noted.

COVID-19 UPDATES

Town Council and staff continue to serve the community while taking appropriate precautions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our business hours remain temporarily changed: Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

How to Contact Us

Phone: 703-491-1918

Email: info@occoquanva.gov

Mail: P.O. Box 195, Occoquan, VA 22125

Drop box: next to Town Hall front door

COVID-19 Resources

Prince William County: coronavirus.pwcgov.org or 703-872-7759

Northern Virginia Regional Commission: coronavirus-novaregion.org/

Virginia Department of Health: vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus or 877-275-8343

Fall 2020 RiverFest and Craft Show Canceled

As a result of restrictions on the size of social gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic and out of concern for the health of our community, the Town has reluctantly decided to cancel the Occoquan RiverFest & Craft Show slated for September 26 & 27. This was a difficult decision, but look for the Occoquan RiverFest & Craft Show to return June 2021!

Occoquan Small Business Micro-Grant Program

Congratulations to the business owners who submitted applications and were eligible for the Town of Occoquan Micro-Grant program. Thank you to the Occoquan Merchants' Guild for partnering with the Town to distribute funds.

Virtual 5K Recap

A big shout out to the more than 100 participants in Occoquan's Virtual 5K! Proceeds from the initiative will benefit The Good News Community Kitchen, VFW, and Occoquan Historical Society's Mill House Museum.

SIGN UP FOR OCQ ALERTS!

Register for email and/or text message alerts about the latest Town news. Go to occoquanva.gov, scroll to the link for OCQ Alerts and complete the form. Please mark all "occoquanva.gov" addresses as safe senders.