

Trash and Recycling Collection Reminders

Please place refuse to the curb **no earlier than 4 p.m.** on Tuesdays, but **before 7 a.m. on Wednesdays**, and remove your containers as quickly as possible after collection and store at the rear of your property. Ensure there is a pedestrian path available at all times by not blocking public sidewalks and rights of way with refuse containers. **Do not place household refuse in or next to Town-owned trash receptacles.** Need a new container? Contact Town Hall at (703) 491-1918.

Annual Fall Cleanup Day October 17, Volunteers needed

Friends of the Occoquan (FOTO) will host the annual Fall cleanup day on Saturday, October 17, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Occoquan. The event will focus on town beautification, river cleanup and trash removal. If you would like to volunteer, meet at Town Hall, 314 Mill St., at 9 a.m. on October 17. Tools will be provided and you are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and sturdy shoes. For more information contact Renate Vanegas, Friends of the Occoquan, at (703) 674-6659 or foto@friendsoftheoccoquan.org.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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P.O. Box 195
Occoquan, VA 22125

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OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXII, ISSUE X

(703) 491-1918

OCTOBER 2015

TOWN COUNCIL

Elizabeth A.C. Quist, Mayor
Patrick A. Sivigny, Vice Mayor
Tyler C. Brown
J. Matthew Dawson
Jim Drakes
Joseph McGuire



TOWN HALL STAFF

Kirstyn Jovanovich, Town Manager
Sheldon E. Levi, Chief of Police
Abigail Breeding, CPA, Treasurer
Greg Holcomb, Town Clerk
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor
Krista Forcier, Craft Show Director

Mayor's Letter

Fall is finally here, and there are a number of upcoming events that make Occoquan not only a special place to live, but the #1 Tourist Destination in Prince William County. They include the Friends of the Occoquan (FOTO) Fall cleanup in October, the Annual Town Tree Lighting in November, and the Town Blessing and Holiday Party in December, to name just a few. Check out the Town website to learn more about these and other upcoming Occoquan traditions.

Construction is underway on Phase I of the Town's new maintenance and restroom facility at River Mill Park. And, to commemorate the opening of Occoquan's newest park, the Town is excited to announce a special brick fundraising program! A limited number of 4 by 8 inch red clay bricks are available for purchase at Town Hall or online at www.occoquanva.gov. Individuals, businesses, and organizations will be permitted up to three lines of engraving and the option for a logo or clip art in return for a donation. The commemorative bricks will be installed along a new brick pathway at River Mill Park, and will become a permanent fixture in our community to be enjoyed by future generations. All proceeds generated by the commemorative brick paver program will go towards future parks programming, maintenance and improvements within the Town of Occoquan.

Finally, the Town has partnered with Keep Prince William Beautiful (KPWB) to identify two locations as Adopt-a-Spots, in which adoptees maintain their spot free of litter and debris on an ongoing basis for a minimum of two years. KPWB provides the training and supplies necessary for volunteers to plan and oversee nine cleanups a year, and signage in the area recognizing the sponsor. The homeowners' association of Gaslight Landing has already graciously offered to adopt Mamie Davis Park, and I'd like to publicly thank them for their participation. The area under the Route 123 Bridge is also available for adoption - please contact Town Hall for more information.

Elizabeth A.C. Quist

Town Council Actions: September 1, 2015

The following items are extracts of recent Town Council actions and are not official meeting minutes. The most recent approved Town Council minutes and agendas are available online at www.occoquanva.gov. All votes are unanimous unless noted otherwise.

- Approved a Zoning Text Amendment to Chapter 66, Article VII of the Town Code relating to signs and advertising.
- Denied resident's request to place a ornamental structure in the Town's Stormwater Easement. 4-1, Mr. Brown voting nay.
- Awarded a contract for consulting services for the Comprehensive Plan review and update
- Awarded a contract for FYE 2015 Audit.
- Tabled the purchase of Town logo gaslight banners.

Occoquan Arts & Crafts Show – Thank You!

Thank you to all of our residents, businesses, vendors, visitors and volunteers for a successful Fall Occoquan Arts and Crafts Show! With your support, we are able to host almost 300 exhibitors and welcome almost 10,000 visitors to our community! In our 46th year, proceeds generated from the semi-annual show continue to go toward funding infrastructure and maintenance improvements in town, including sidewalks, roads, parks and public buildings. Together, the shows generate almost \$120,000 in net revenue annually to go toward capital improvement projects, allowing the Town to limit tax impacts on our residents and businesses. Thank you once again for a great year – we're already looking forward to 2016!

Vehicle Decals

The Town of Occoquan 2016 vehicle decals are now on sale at Town Hall. Town Ordinance Section 62-37 requires that owners of any motor vehicle principally stored, garaged or parked in the Town obtain a license decal from the Town. **The 2016 decal must be displayed on your vehicle by November 15, 2015.**

You will be receiving your renewal form in the mail during the first week of October. Forms and payments can be mailed back to Town Hall or dropped off in person. Town Hall will be open on Saturday, November 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for your convenience.

If you have any questions, please contact Town Staff at (703) 491-1918, Extension 1 or at info@occoquanva.gov.

October 2015

Town Meetings and Events

(All meetings are held at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, unless otherwise noted.)

October 6: Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Regular Meeting, Town Hall

October 12: Columbus Day
Town Hall closed

October 13: Planning Commission
7:00 p.m., Town Hall

Architectural Review Board
7:30 p.m., Town Hall

October 17: Friends of the Occoquan Fall Cleanup, 9:00 a.m.

October 20: Town Council Work Session
7:00 p.m., Work Session, Town Hall

October 31: Halloween
See safety tips below!

Halloween Safety Tips

It is important to remember that Halloween is around the corner and to make trick-or-treat enjoyable for everyone, we need to be vigilant to ensure children's safety.

Here are a few safety tips for trick-or-treating:

- ◆ Make sure kids wear light colors, or put reflective tape on their costumes.
- ◆ Trick-or-treaters should always be in groups and parents should accompany young children.
- ◆ Make sure kids know not to enter strange houses or strangers' cars. Children should stop only at familiar homes where the outside lights are on.
- ◆ Kids need to know not to eat their treats until they get home. One way to keep trick-or-treaters from digging in while they're still out is to feed them a meal or a snack before hand.
- ◆ Check out all treats at home in a well-lighted place.
- ◆ There is no set trick-or-treat time; however, generally trick-or-treat lasts from dusk until 9pm.

If you follow these simple tips you will be sure to have a happy and safe Halloween for the whole family!

Occoquan Commemorative Brick Program

Leave your mark on Occoquan and help support the community by purchasing a personalized brick paver to be installed at River Mill Park – opening in Spring 2016! All proceeds will go toward park programming and maintenance in Occoquan. For more information visit www.occoquanva.gov.