TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS : OCTOBER 2026

- Held a public hearing on local cannibis/Marijuana Sales Tax
- ADOPTED ORDINANCE O-2026-06 AMENDING THE TOWN CODE TO IMPOSE A LOCAL CANNIBIS/ MAIJUANA SALES TAX

THE OCCOQUAN BEAT

If you're shopping for gifts or everyday essentials, remember to lock your vehicle, keep purchases out of sight, and arrange to bring delivered packages indoors promptly. If your gatherings include alcohol, plan ahead for a safe ride home.

We're grateful for the many cultures, traditions, and people who make Occoquan such a welcoming community. Look out for one another, and don't hesitate to say hello when you see us around town. From all of us at the Occoquan Police Department, we wish you a safe and peaceful season!

OCCOQUAN GIVES BACK

This season we're proud to parter with Volunteer Prince William to bring joy to seniors in our community through the Senior Basket Program. From November 21st to December 6th, the community is invited to donate items to fill festive baskets for local seniors. Donations can be dropped off at Town Hall during business hours.

More information can be found at: www.VisitOccoquanVA.com/GiveBack

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER
OCCOQUANVA.GOV · INFO@OCCOQUANVA.GOV

TOWN OF OCCOQUAN
314 MILL STREET
P.O. BOX 195
OCCOQUAN, VA 22125

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OCCOQUAN, VA 22125

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXXIIII 703-491-1918 NOVEMBER 2026

TOWN COUNCIL

EARNEST W. PORTA, JR. MAYOR
JENN LOGES, VICE MAYOR
THEO DAUBRESSE
CINDY FITHIAN
ELIOT PERKINS
ROBERT E. LOVE

TOWN HALL STAFF

ADAM LINN, TOWN MANAGER & CHIEF OF POLICE
JASON FORMAN, DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE
MEGAN LUBASH, ASST. TOWN MANAGER/TOWN CLERK
KRISTIN SHAW, TOWN TREASURER
PHILIP AUVILLE, DEPUTY TOWN TREASURER
TAMMY HASSET, EVENTS DIRECTOR
JORDAN SANDERS, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I would like to start off by noting the different look of the town's monthly newsletter. As some of you may be aware, Microsoft has discontinued Publisher, the software used to design and print the newsletter. As a result, staff is experimenting with other programs and designs. Please do not hesitate to provide feedback as they test different options.

Hopefully many of you were able to enjoy our various events in October, including our annual Halloween parade and costume contest. I also want to take a moment to thank everyone who participated in our season of Trivia Nights in River Mill Park. We closed out the season with our largest crowd yet – 38 teams.

This month, of course, we move into our Christmas and winter holidays season. On Saturday, November 21, we will be holding our late shopping and tree lighting event the weekend before Thanksgiving to benefit town businesses. The tree lighting occurs at 6:00 p.m. and shuttles will be running from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. As always, I encourage you to consider our town businesses for your holiday shopping needs. Input costs for them have once again been high during the past year and the holiday season is thus an especially critical period for many of them. Early December will bring Santa's arrival, our Artisan Market, and other activities, so please check the town web site and that of Visit Occoquan to stay abreast of all our holiday happenings.

There are a few other things important to note for the month of November. As always, the town's annual vehicle decals should be purchased and displayed by November 15. Also, please note that Fairfax Water's annual fall testing of their dam warning siren will take place on November 13 at 10:00 a.m. As I mentioned in an earlier e-newsletter, the property owner has finally begin the demolition of the steel boat dry dock on Mill Street. The work is expected to take a few weeks and will be contained entirely on site, save for a temporary sidewalk closure for some of the steel overhanging the walkway. Truck traffic is expected to be modest and no disruption beyond some increased noise is anticipated. Last, given that darkness now descends earlier, for everyone's safety, I would like to encourage residents to take extra care and consider light colored clothing when walking outside during the evening commuting hours. There is a great deal of traffic through town at this time and it is likely to take everyone a while to adjust to earlier darkness.

As always, thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to contact me at eporta@occoquanva.gov with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Earnest W. Porta, Jr.

2027

VEHICLE LICENSE RENEWAL

DUE DATE: NOVEMBER 15TH

Drop off completed forms and payment to town hall or renew online at: OccoquanVA.gov/Make-A-Payment

TOWN VOTING INFORMATION

- Election day: November 3rd
- Residents of the Town of Occoquan vote at Occoquan Elementary school located at: 12915 Occoquan Road, Woodbridge
- Reminder that voting does not take place at town hall.

THAT DAM SIREN TEST

Fairfax water authority has scheduled the annual testing of its emergency dam siren on Wednesday, November 13th at 10:00am.

Those in Occoquan are likely to hear a loud, whooping siren for approximately two minutes.

More info can be foiund at: www.fairfaxwater.org/occoquan-resevoir/occoquan-dam-siren

MEETINGS & EVENTS

November 3
Election Day
Town Hall Closed

November 4
Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm

November 11
Veterans Day
Town Hall Closed

November 13
That Damn Siren Test
10:00am

November 17
Town Council Meeting
7:00 pm

November 20
Meals Tax Due

November 21
Tree Lighting
6:00 PM
Shop Late Night
Shop, Dine, Win Begins

November 26 & 27
Thanksgiving holiday
Town Hall Closed

November 27-29
Shop Small Weekend

December 5-6
Holiday Artisan Market
11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

HOLIDAY EVENTS

TOWN TREE LIGHTING
NOVEMBER 21
6:00 PM

On this magical evening, Occoquan feels like the little town in your favorite Christmas movie. Carolers fill the streets with familiar songs, marshmallows toast beside crackling fires, and coffee and sweet treat trucks serve up something cozy to savor.

Gather in front of Town Hall as the mayor lights the Christmas tree, bringing a little extra sparkle to the heart of town. Then linger awhile—our small businesses will stay open late, ready to help you find thoughtful gifts that add to the holiday magic.

With free shuttles running from 1-9 pm, all you need to bring is someone you love and a little holiday spirit. We'll save you a spot by the fire.



HOLIDAY ARTISAN MARKET
DECEMBER 5-6
11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Continue the Christmas magic right here in town on December 5 & 6! The Holiday Artisan Market returns from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. both days, featuring 90+ makers and creators.

Enjoy a festive stroll through town, find handmade and celebrate the season with neighbors.

Be sure to give Santa a warm Occoquan welcome when he arrives by boat at the town dock on Saturday Dec 5th at 10:30am. After his arrival, he'll be ready to hear Christmas wish lists and take photos. Join the fun of the Gingerbread House contest throughout the weekend. Submit one of your own or vote for your favorite!

On Saturday from 4-7pm, gather for Fireside with Friends, featuring s'mores, live music, festive cocktails, and more! It's a lovely way to spend an evening with neighbors and enjoy the holiday charm of the place we call home.