

ARB News: Banners

A banner is a temporary sign of flexible material designed to be installed with attachments at each of the four corners and are generally discouraged for streetscape reasons but are allowed for special events. Special event banners do require the issuance of a permit by the Town Manager prior to their display. All other banners, including those promoting commercial products or with logos are prohibited.

If you are having a special event, remember that banner colors should be consistent with those in the Historic District palette and must be attached to the existing principal structure with a clearance of at least 12" from one edge of the storefront, building or sign pole. No banner can obscure architectural features of the building (such as windows, railings, or ornamentation). For details regarding banner regulations visit www.occoquanva.gov.

Virginia Sales Tax Holiday on School Supplies and Clothing: August 1-3

From August 1 - 3, 2014, purchases of certain school supplies, clothing and footwear will be exempt from the Virginia sales tax. Each eligible school supply item must be priced at \$20 or less, and each eligible article of clothing and footwear must be priced at \$100 or less. Visit www.tax.virginia.gov for more information.

OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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AUGUST 2014

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 L. Barr, Town Manager
Abigail Breeding, CPA, Treasurer
Sheldon E. Levi, Chief of Police
Bucky Brill, Maintenance Supervisor

WWW.OCCOQUANVA.GOV
INFO@OCCOQUANVA.GOV

MAYOR'S LETTER

Two very exciting announcements this month relate to future Town of Occoquan park lands. On Monday, July 7, I signed the settlement agreement for the 17.64 acres of park land at the intersection of Tanyard Hill and Old Bridge Roads. You may remember this property being the source of a heated debate over rezoning two years ago, when our community raised concerns about increased cut-through traffic, amplified stormwater runoff and destruction of the Town gateway's natural beauty from commercial development. The NRA Foundation has worked with our past and current Town Councils and former Mayor Earnie Porta to place this property in a permanent conservation easement to protect it for future generations. Additionally, the Prince William Trails and Streams Coalition has received a \$4,500 grant from REI to construct approximately 3,000 feet of trail on the property. A heartfelt "thank you" to all who supported this effort!

Also announced in the month of July, is Fairfax Water's intent to begin water tank removal at the end of Mill Street by early August. Work is expected to last through the beginning of next year before the property is officially released to the Town, after which the Town will work to develop the site into a public park that we hope to have operational by the fall of 2015. Once solidified, the plans will follow the same review and approval process as other construction projects in Town and updates will be provided as they become available.

Finally, in the middle of July we experienced significant flash flooding in a number of areas in Town. Members of Town staff responded immediately and were onsite to coordinate the communication efforts of our staff, Prince William County Police, VDOT, and the PWC Service Authority. Our engineering firm was onsite the next day to inspect the affected areas and provide guidance to Town Officials. Stormwater management remains one of the greatest challenges facing Occoquan, and the Town Council and staff will continue to utilize all means available to address the problem.

Elizabeth A.C. Quist

Town Council Actions: July 1, 2014

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.

- Prior to the start of the meeting, Prince William County Clerk of the Circuit Court swore in the newly elected Mayor and Council.
- Appointed Patrick Sivigny as Vice Mayor of the Occoquan Town Council.
- Appointed J. Matthew Dawson as the Council representative to the Architectural Review Board.
- Appointed Joe McGuire as the Council representative to the Planning Commission.
- Approved the purchase of a replacement HVAC unit for the Town's annex, located on Commerce Street, in an amount not to exceed \$4,825.
- An orientation session was held for the new Town Council on July 9.

No Through Truck Traffic

Tanyard Hill Road/Union Street and Occoquan Road/Washington Street

The Virginia Department of Transportation has prohibited through traffic of trucks in town on Tanyard Hill Road and Union Street, and Occoquan Road and Washington Street, between Old Bridge Road and Commerce Street. This restriction *only* applies to through traffic of trucks and not such vehicles with points of origin or destination along the affected routes. Signs will be posted within the coming weeks notifying motorists of this new restriction.

Volunteers Needed: Arts & Crafts Show

Interested in giving back to the community? Consider volunteering your time and talents to the Town's Fall Arts and Crafts Show. This two-day event draws thousands of people to town and is successful due to the support of our businesses and volunteers!

If you're interested in volunteering for the Fall Arts and Crafts Show, email kbarr@occoquanva.gov or stop by Town Hall to sign up.

AUGUST 2014

August 2014 Town Meetings and Events

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

Tuesday, August 5: Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 12: Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m.; Architectural Review Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 19: Town Council Work Session, 7:00 p.m.

Trash and recycling is collected each **Wednesday** in the Town of Occoquan.

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.

Do not place household refuse in Town-owned trash receptacles.

Please do not block public sidewalks and rights of way with refuse containers. Please ensure there is a pedestrian path available at all times.

River Park Work to Begin in August

Demolition of the water tanks located at the west end of Mill Street will begin in August. The Town is working closely with Fairfax Water and the on site contractors in an effort to limit the impact of the work on the business community and residents.

Construction on the site is expected to last through the beginning of next year. Please note that while the site is under construction, residents and visitors are asked not to fish from the banks or enter the water in areas adjacent to the construction site in order to ensure safety of both the public and the crews working on the site. If you have any questions or concerns regarding park construction, please contact Kirstyn Barr, Town Manager, at kbarr@occoquanva.gov or (703) 491-1918. As the project moves forward, updates will be provided in the monthly town newsletter and online at www.occoquanva.gov.