



## Town & Business Quarterly Meeting Information and Updates

Tuesday, July 8, 2025

*Tuesday, July 8 at 5:30pm, a Quarterly Town Hall was held, and a summary of the discussion is below.*

### UPCOMING DEADLINES

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<b>Monday, July 21</b>	Last Day to sign up to participate in the Christmas in July event
<b>Friday, July 25</b>	Fall/Winter Visitor's Guide Early Bird Discount Deadline
<b>Friday, August 8</b>	Fall/Winter Visitor's Guide Final Ad Deadline
<b>Friday, August 8</b>	Deadline to submit events for the Fall/Winter printed Visitor's Guide
<b>Friday, August 29</b>	Last day to sign up for a booth at Fall Arts & Craft Show on Sep. 27-28, 2025

### TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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#### Updates from the Town of Occoquan:

- Town Council approved the **FY26 Visit Occoquan contract** for marketing, design, and tourism.
- Matt reminded businesses of the **elimination of the meals tax discount** for early payments.
- The small island off the kayak ramp, which is renamed annually through a voter competition at RiverFest, was renamed **Paddlers Point** for FY26.
- Town Council approved the FY26 Town Budget.
- **Julie Little retired** as Director of Events, after 8 years in Occoquan. Tammy Hassett, who has been working alongside Julie this past year, has taken over as Director.
- Town is working on new regulations regarding the **town dock**. More details to come!

### VISIT OCCOQUAN

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#### New/Old/Moving Businesses

Congratulations and welcome to the new businesses that opened (or are soon to open), moving, or who have said goodbye in Occoquan over this last quarter!

##### New:

- **To.Bee** at 308 Poplar Alley
- **Laura Jones Fine Art Gallery & Studio** at 125 Mill Street
- **Evidi Massage** at 300 Ellicott Street

- **Aspire Counseling Group** at 206 Washington Street
- **Thai Ghang Waan Occoquan** at 406 Mill Street

#### Moving/Moved:

- **Leaf & Petal** has moved & reopened at 204 Washington Street
- **Hello Jackson Home Fragrance** is moving from 201-A Union to 201-C Union (Aug/Sep)

#### Goodbye:

- **Bann Thai** at 406 Mill Street

## **OCQ Business Hub**

A presentation was given on how to utilize the OCQ Hub at [visitoccoquanva.com/ocqhub](https://www.visitoccoquanva.com/ocqhub). This is your one place to find all information and links related to businesses!

## **Occoquan Visitor's Guide**

A reminder of deadlines was announced (see page 1 of this document). The Executive Director of Visit Occoquan also discussed that the Board was exploring opportunities for a local publication to take over the design and printing of the guide, should we continue to have low turnout for advertisement space. Currently we are barely breaking even or sometimes losing money. This publication is self-published and there is no budget through Town or Visit to cover a shortfall.

The Board will review the budget once the Fall/Winter issue is launched and make a decision about the future of the guide from there.

## **Gift Cards In-Person Purchases**

Three businesses have been selected through an application process, to sell Visit Occoquan Gift Cards at their business. This will be launching soon. Thank you to **Ballywhack Shack Cafe**, **Potomac Chocolate**, and **Hitchcock Paper Co.** for giving visitors and residents a place in person to purchase gift cards!

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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### **Fox5 Zip Trip - Friday, July 11, 2025**

Fox5 came out to Occoquan on Friday, July 11 for it's Zip Trip! Read about it or watch the video segments here: <https://www.visitoccoquanva.com/post/2025-fox-5-zip-trip-to-occoquan>

### **Christmas in July - Friday, July 25, 2025**

Sign up to participate (it's FREE!) by Monday, July 21 at <https://form.jotform.com/251414005618145>

### **National Night Out - Tuesday, August 5, 2025**

Business owners, their staffs and families are invited to join us for the annual National Night Out event on Tuesday, August 5 from 6-8pm under the Rt. 123 bridge. There will be food, games, activities for kids/families. This is a great opportunity to network and meet our Occoquan Police Department, Town Hall staff, Town Council, and Visit Occoquan leadership. Learn more at <https://www.visitoccoquanva.com/nno>

## **Celebrate Occoquan Benefit - Monday, September 15, 2025**

Visit Occoquan will be hosted it's inaugural fundraising event on Monday, September 15 at Mill St. Draft Garden. This event will help fund additional marketing and advertising not in our current budget, to help us better promote businesses around town. We would love to see you there! Tickets are now on sale at <https://www.visitoccoquanva.com/celebrate!>

## **Fall Arts & Craft Show - September 27-28, 2025**

The last day for businesses to sign up for a booth at the town business rate (\$150 per 10x10 space) is **August 29, 2025**. Limit 2 booths. The form to sign up is <https://www.jotform.com/250555760580156>

## **Trivia Night - through October 2025**

Trivia season continues in River Mill Park. Season and individual date tickets are now on sale at <https://www.visitoccoquanva.com/trivia>. Visit Occoquan will be supplying the bar and concessions.

## **Save the Date**

- Town & Business Quarterly Meeting - Oct 7 at 5:30pm (*MOVED FROM Oct. 14!*)
- Murder Mystery - Oct 24 at 7pm
- Costume Parade - Oct 25 at 10am
- Movie in the Park: Hocus Pocus - Oct 25 at 7pm
- Tree Lighting - Nov 22
- Artisan Market - Dec 6-7
- Stay open until 8pm - Nov. 22 & Dec. 6

## **OCCOQUAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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Follow the Occoquan Police Department (OPD) on Instagram at @occoquan\_pd and sign up on [AlertOccoquan](#) via Everbridge to get updates on public safety/community initiatives. Businesses may contact OPD at 571-492-7274.

## **NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION**

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### **NO PARKING IN PRIVATE LOTS:**

- A business owner brought up a topic that is affect merchants with private parking lots. Customers and staff of businesses are parking in (or instructing others to park in) privately maintained lots.
- Businesses request that owners remind their staff to only tell customers to park in public parking areas or lots that are leased/owned by that specific business.