



Greetings from the Occoquan District and Happy Halloween!

I hope this October E-Update finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to share some information with you and your family about a few things going on in our area.

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Halloween Safety

Halloween may be a fun holiday for kids, but for parents trick-or-treat time can be a little tricky. Concerns about children's safety, whether they are out in the neighborhood or back home with bags of treats, can darken the day more quickly than a black cat. To make Halloween a treat for all, follow these safety tips:

- Make sure kids wear light colors or put reflective tape on their costumes.
- Trick-or-treaters should always be in groups so they aren't a tempting target for real-life goblins. 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 beforehand.
- Check out all treats at home in a well-lighted place.

If you need to contact the police, you may call the non-emergency number: 703-792-6500 (or for an emergency dial 9-1-1).

Old Bridge Road Update

You may have noticed that Old Bridge road was recently re-striped from Route 123 to the Prince William Parkway. This should improve road visibility throughout the corridor, especially at night. In addition, VDOT has reported that plans are in the works to improve sight line and traffic signal visibility on Old Bridge Road near Harbor Drive and to improve the vertical alignment of Old Bridge Road (westbound) near Colby Drive. We will continue to keep you informed about these projects and others as more information becomes available.

The Stop the Bullying Now Project

A constituent recently contacted me about the Stop the Bullying Now Project and I wanted to take the opportunity to share this information with you. The project is a community initiative to eradicate bullying, violence, and hatred in our children's educational environment. If you have been following the news lately, you have probably been informed of a few very high profile incidents of bully related violence. Obviously, this is any issue of concern to many communities throughout the United States, including Prince William County. Through the website, <http://stopbullyingnow-pwc.ning.com/>, students can report anonymously incidents of bullying, connect with other students, parents and teachers in Prince William County, and learn more about bullying and bullying prevention.

News from the Clean Community Council

Prince William Clean Community Council (CCC) in partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Prince William County, Manassas & Manassas Park (PWC Habitat) labeled storm drains in the Hedges Run neighborhood of Lake Ridge on October 5. The storm drain labels were provided by CCC and placed in neighborhoods by volunteers from both organizations.

Storm drain labels are 3 X 5 ¼ inch plastic plaques that are placed on the top of storm drains to educate citizens of the dangers of polluting storm drains. Additionally, the labels inform citizens of where local storm drains lead to: The Chesapeake Bay.

In all, 90 storm drains were labeled as part of a larger multi-year initiative which will label more than 10,000 storm drains in Prince William County. For more information on storm drain labeling or CCC programs, visit www.pwcleancouncil.org.

Old Bridge Community Thanksgiving Dinner

The Members of Old Bridge United Methodist Church invite the community to join them for Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 25 at 1:00 p.m. The dinner is a free gift to the community but reservations are required. Please call 703-730-3895 or 703-590-7571 by Tuesday, November 23. Old Bridge United Methodist Church is located at 3966 Old Bridge Road.

Thanks for reading our October E-Update! As always, if we can ever be of service to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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