

Notice to Mariners

Occoquan River *Blessing of the Fleet*

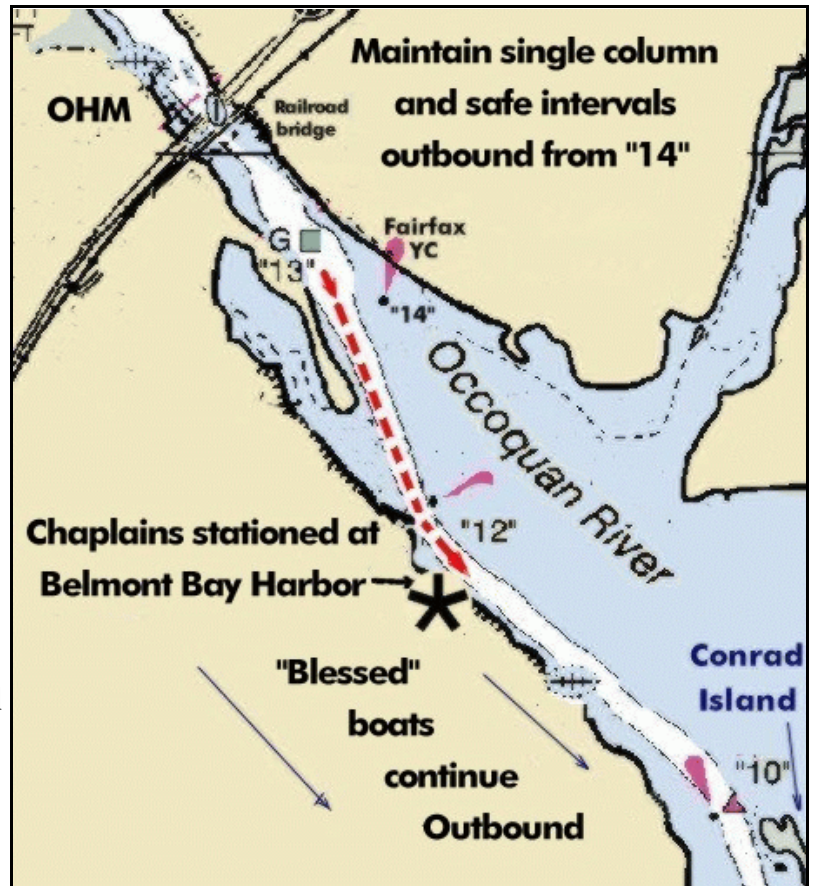
May 10, 11:00 A.M. -- 2:00 P.M.

Dedicated to Boating Safety and
Celebrating the Opening of the 2003 Boating Season

Enter the parade route at Marker No. 14, just past Fairfax Yacht Club, and proceed outbound toward Belmont Bay Harbor and pass alongside the gas dock where a chaplain will invoke a blessing on each passing boat. *Please maintain safe intervals between boats*

Guard VHF Ch. 9 to hail and Ch. 71 as a working channel. Marine bulletins regarding the event will be broadcast starting at 1000 on VHF Ch. 16 and Ch. 22A.

The Occoquan River Maritime Association (ORMA) is coordinating the efforts of the Prince William, Fairfax and Occoquan Yacht Clubs, with support from the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Fairfax and Prince William County public safety agencies.



Boaters *NOT* wishing to take part may pass the procession to port, staying clear of the blessing area during the designated hours. This is a U.S. Coast Guard-designated marine regatta and law enforcement vessels will be patrolling to ensure that safety is maintained in this area. Thank you for your consideration.

ORMA is a volunteer organization dedicated to coordinating activities involving commercial and recreational use of the Occoquan River. ORMA's major initiatives are advocacy for maintaining the Occoquan channel depth, working with the Town of Occoquan to reestablish its historic seaport for recreational boaters, and preserving the environmental quality and safety of the river.