



The Greater Ocean City, Maryland  
Chamber of Commerce

# Things You Need to Know This Week

August 6, 2021

## Member Notice

### **Gov. Hogan Announces New Vaccination Protocols for State Employees; Businesses May Set Their Own Mask Policies**

Effective September 1, employees in 48 state facilities will be required to show proof of vaccination, or adhere to strict face covering requirements and submit to regular, ongoing COVID-19 testing.

Mask Guidance: The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) continues to strongly recommend that unvaccinated individuals wear a face covering in indoor settings and situations where physical distancing cannot be maintained. ***Businesses and other workplaces may set their own policies to protect public health as they deem appropriate.***

We need to continue to work together to get through this. To get the latest vaccination info, visit Maryland's vaccination website: [GoVaxMD](#)

[Read Full Press Release](#)

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### **Join the Member-Only OC Chamber Facebook Group**

The member-only Facebook group is an additional platform to deliver timely updates on news that impacts our business community.

[Join our member Facebook group now!](#)

## Shop Maryland Tax-Free Week August 8-14; Scholarship Contest for Students Promoting Tax-Free Savings

During tax-free week, any single qualifying article of clothing or footwear priced \$100 or less – regardless of how many items are purchased in the same transaction – will be exempt from the state's six percent sales tax. The first \$40 of any backpack purchase is also tax free.

The Comptroller's Office is partnering with the Maryland Retailers Association (MRA) to again offer scholarships to two students attending a Maryland university, college or trade school, with a \$1,000 award for first place and a \$500 prize for second place. To enter, students must email a creative photo or video (less than 60 seconds) promoting tax-free week, showcasing their purchases and their support of Maryland retailers to [SHOPMDTAXFREE@marylandtaxes.gov](mailto:SHOPMDTAXFREE@marylandtaxes.gov). Entries also should be posted on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or TikTok using the hashtag #shopmdtaxfree. For best consideration, submissions should display and tag the name of the retailer and explain why it's their favorite place to shop tax free.

### [Press Release](#)

**TAX-FREE WEEK!**  
**SHOP MARYLAND AUGUST 8 -14**

NO SALES TAX ON QUALIFYING CLOTHING  
OR FOOTWEAR PRICED AT \$100 OR LESS

PAY NO SALES TAX ON THE FIRST \$40 OF A BACKPACK

PETER FRANCHOT, COMPTROLLER  
WWW.MARYLANDTAXES.GOV  
COMPTROLLER of MARYLAND  
Serving the People

## **Please Be Aware of a New Scam Currently Impacting Some Local Hotels**

For the past few nights, there have been two different scammers calling hotel night auditors who claim to either be the hotel owner or a regional supervisor from Wyndham. These scammers have asked auditors to count down the drawers, take the cash to CVS and buy prepaid cards with the cash. They also advised auditors that FEDEX packages would be arriving for the hotel and that they would be at the property to retrieve them.

Please instruct your staff how to handle these scam calls.

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## **Volunteer for BikeFest September 15-19**

Take in *ALL* that OC Bikefest has to offer while helping the OC Chamber fundraise! We need volunteers at two locations: Inlet and Convention Center. As a THANK YOU, volunteers will receive free admission to BikeFest activities!

[Sign up to volunteer](#)



*In Partnership With*



Please contact the Chamber for additional information  
(410) 213-0144 | [mychamber@oceancity.org](mailto:mychamber@oceancity.org) | [www.oceancity.org](http://www.oceancity.org)