

— Old Town —

— SPIRIT —

DORA License

WHAT IS IT?

The DORA, or Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area, license is an ABC license for towns or cities which creates an outdoor open container zone for designated events. Under this license, patrons can buy alcohol from permanent establishments and carry their beverages outdoors throughout the designated areas and into other stores where allowed by merchants. Here in Old Town Winchester, we're calling this license Old Town Spirit, and it's just one more way to showcase all that Old Town has to offer--from unique boutiques to specialty restaurants and artistic atmosphere! When Old Town Spirit is in effect, it's the perfect time to sip, shop, and stroll.

WHEN IS IT EFFECTIVE?

The open container zone only applies during designated dates and times--when an events description says "Old Town Spirit is in effect," you'll notice special signage and additional staff in place. The standard license allows for 16 uses per calendar year, with one "event" being anywhere from 1-3 consecutive days.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

When you arrive at an Old Town Spirit event, you won't see any barricades or fences. Instead, look for the signs placed at every mall entryway to designate the boundary zone. Stop in at any of your favorite Old Town restaurants or breweries to buy your drink of choice, and then take your disposable cup outside to continue shopping and strolling! You're even free to take your drink into retailers within the boundary zone--just check the sign on their door first to make sure it's ok with that business, and don't take your drink into a new restaurant.

IS THIS A FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT?

Absolutely! Our Old Town Spirit license isn't the centerpiece of any event--it's just a new way to enjoy the Old Town Winchester experience! Whether it's holiday shopping at all your favorite stores with a warm mulled wine in hand, watching the kids play at the Splash Pad with a local craft beer on a summer evening, or kicking back with no drink at all on the Taylor Pavilion lawn to listen to live music, there's a new way to spend the day every time you visit. Old Town Spirit is a celebration of our amazing small business community--and that's something everyone can enjoy.

If you are interested in volunteering, busking, or learning more, feel free to reach out to the Old Town office!