



## COVID-19 Updates & Important Information ~MARCH 25, 2021~

### COVID-19 Restrictions Easing in Virginia



Governor Ralph Northam recently announced the easing of some public health restrictions in Virginia that will allow certain sports and entertainment venues to operate with additional capacity, while indoor and outdoor gathering limits will increase starting Thursday, April 1, 2021.

#### Key Changes Announced

- **Social gatherings:** The maximum number of individuals permitted in a social gathering will increase to 50 people (up from 10) for indoor settings and 100 people for outdoor settings (up from 25).
- **Entertainment venues:** All indoor and outdoor entertainment and public amusement venues must continue to operate at 30 percent capacity, but the cap on the number of people allowed has increased.
- **Recreational sporting events:** The number of spectators allowed at recreational sporting events will increase from 25 to 100 people per field or 30 percent capacity, whichever is less for indoor settings,

and from 250 to 500 people per field or 30 percent capacity, whichever is less for outdoor settings.

The governor reminded everyone to continue to stay vigilant and continue the strategies of physical distancing, teleworking and universal mask requirements.

[Read details in this news release from the governor's office](#)

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## What to Know about Variants

We hear a lot from health officials about the public health threat posed by variants of the virus that causes COVID-19. Viruses constantly change through mutation, and new variants of a virus are expected to occur over time.



There are many variants of the virus that causes COVID-19, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says there are [five variants of concern that are being closely monitored](#).

Scientists are working to learn more about how easily the variants spread, whether they could cause more severe illness, and whether currently authorized vaccines will protect people against them. Health officials say [the presence of variants](#) makes it even more important to comply with public health mitigation strategies to limit the spread of COVID-19, including vaccination, physical distancing, use of masks, washing hands frequently, and isolation and quarantine, when necessary.

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## Getting a COVID Vaccine: Step-by-Step



### **Step 1: The first step is submitting a pre-registration**

If you have not done so already you should submit a pre-registration form [online](#) or by calling [703-737-8300](tel:703-737-8300) if you do not have access to the internet.

Pre-registration forms create a database of names and contact

info for those who have submitted. [See where we are on the waitlist.](#)

**If you need to verify or edit your registration in the centralized, statewide system, you can do so [here](#) or by calling [877-829-4682](tel:877-829-4682).**

### **Step 2: Scheduling an Appointment**

When it is time to schedule an appointment, most will be notified through email, unless you requested to schedule by phone in your pre-registration.

If you will schedule online, expect to receive two emails: one from the Health Department with detailed instructions to complete the scheduling process, a second from the CDC to create a VAMS account.

### **Step 3: Your Appointment is Scheduled**

You will receive an email confirmation with your appointment date, time and location. If you need to cancel or reschedule for any reason, you can log back into your VAMS account to change your appointment.

### **Step 4: Getting Your Vaccine**

Go to your appointment as scheduled. When you arrive, you will check in and then be directed to the vaccination area.

### **Step 5: Follow Up**

If the vaccine you receive requires two doses, you will need to schedule a second appointment. Those who scheduled online will be reminded to schedule their second appointment by logging back into VAMS and choosing a date and time for a second dose that is at least 21 or 28 days later, depending on the type of vaccine you received.

Those who scheduled over the phone can schedule their second appointment before leaving the vaccination site.

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### **Register Through Retail Locations**

Additional retail locations in Virginia are receiving limited amounts of vaccine, as part of the [Federal Retail Pharmacy Program](#), for eligible individuals based on state and local guidelines.

In addition to the CVS Pharmacy at Lansdowne Town Center in Leesburg, the following retailers have opted to join the program:

- [Giant](#), 43760 Greenway Corporate Drive, Ashburn
- [Safeway](#), 12. W. Washington Street, Middleburg
- [Safeway](#), 22350 S. Sterling Boulevard, Sterling Park
- [Safeway](#), 30 Pidgeon Hill, Sterling
- [Safeway](#), 437 S. King Street, Leesburg

## **Save Lives, Get COVIDWISE**

COVIDWISE is Virginia's official exposure notifications app that lets you know if you've likely been exposed to another COVIDWISE user with a positive COVID-19 test result. COVIDWISE is free to download on your smartphone and designed to completely protect your privacy.

The more Virginians who use COVIDWISE, the better everyone can be informed of potential exposure, which helps reduce your risk while protecting your family, friends and community. COVIDWISE is now connected to the National Key Server, which lets COVIDWISE anonymously share data with exposure notifications apps from other states.



**ADD YOUR  
PHONE  
TO THE  
COVID FIGHT**  
**HELP VIRGINIA STOP COVID-19**

[Learn more from the Virginia Department of Health and download the app](#)

## COVID Resources and Information from Inova



### Why Vaccinate? Myth vs. Fact

There is a lot of misinformation circulating about the vaccines regarding their development, safety, and efficacy. To counter that, Inova has widely shared "Myths vs. Facts"

document on our social media channels to provide trusted vaccine information to our communities. For more information, visit the [Inova COVID-19 page](#), or Inova's [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) pages. If you would like to leverage these Inova resources in communications to constituents, please reach out and we'll be happy to share the documents.

### Inova Public Resources

The following links are provided as a quick reference:

- [COVID-19 Information for the Community](#) is Inova's portal to information regarding vaccines, testing, FAQs, visiting hours and cancellation
- [COVID-19 Self-Assessment](#) tool is based on CDC recommendations to help anyone determine whether they may have COVID-19 and seek testing or further care.
- [Inova Video Visits](#) provides patient guidelines for video appointments
- [Motew Minute](#): Dr. Stephen Motew, Chief, Clinical Enterprise, Inova Health System provides a video blog underscoring the latest clinical updates and guidance on Inova's response to COVID-19

### Hospital Visitation

To help lessen the risk of COVID-19 for our patients, team members, and community, Inova continues to operate under a temporary, modified visitor policy. More information can be found here - [Updated Visitor Policy](#).

Highlights of the policy include:

- One visitor allowed per day. Limited exceptions include:

- Pediatric inpatients may have two parents/guardians present.
- Accommodations for patients with development delays or altered mental status
- For end-of-life patients, two visitors are permitted at the bedside at the same time without time restriction.
- For suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients, no visitors are allowed except in end-of-life situations.
- Inpatient visiting hours: 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

## **REMINDER: Loudoun County Announces Changes to Rent Assistance Program; More People May Be Eligible**

Loudoun County residents who are experiencing difficulty paying rent as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic may be eligible for rent payment assistance from two programs: the county's Limited Rent Assistance program (LRA) and the Commonwealth of Virginia's Rent Relief Program (RRP).

### **Loudoun County Rent Assistance Program**

For households  
financially  
impacted by  
COVID-19



LOUDOUN  
COUNTY  
VIRGINIA

[loudoun.gov/limitedrentassistance](https://loudoun.gov/limitedrentassistance)

Recent changes in the Virginia RRP will be reflected in the county's LRA program. Residents may now be eligible for one or the other of these programs, based on their family size and income. More residents may now qualify for rent assistance as a result of these changes, which allow for a greater range of income eligibility.

[Learn More and Complete Your Application](#)

## **Loudoun County Schedules Free COVID-19 Testing Events through April**

## COVID-19 TESTING

Multiple  
Locations

April 2021

Tuesdays

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Drive-thru only. Free & open to everyone.

[loudoun.gov/COVID19testing](https://loudoun.gov/COVID19testing)

Loudoun County has scheduled more free, drive thru COVID-19 testing events through April. Beginning March 30, 2021, testing events will be held on Tuesdays only, and end one hour earlier than the testing events held over the past two months. The new COVID-19 testing schedule is now **Tuesdays, 10:00**

**a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** at the following locations:

**March 30:** [Franklin Park, 17501 Franklin Park Drive, Purcellville](#)

**April 6:** [Philip A. Bolen Memorial Park, 42405 Claudia Drive, Leesburg](#) (Enter the park on Crosstrail Boulevard from Sycolin Road.)

**April 13:** [Cascades Library, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls](#) (Access the testing location in the back parking lot, near the senior center.)

**April 20:** [Dulles South Recreation & Community Center, 24950 Riding Center Drive, South Riding](#)

**April 27:** [Ray Muth Sr. Memorial Park, 20971 Marblehead Drive, Ashburn](#)

[Get More Info on Testing Opportunities and Registration Forms](#)

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**Equinix Digital Infrastructure Scholarship  
Program Launches at NOVA**

The Northern Virginia Community College Educational Foundation and the NOVA Financial Aid Office, in partnership with Equinix, the world's largest digital infrastructure company™, are pleased to announce the 'Equinix Digital Infrastructure Scholarship' program.

The Equinix Digital Infrastructure Scholarship will provide the framework needed for students to enter the growing data center industry through NOVA's Engineering Technology Career Studies Certificate Programs. Equinix will support five students to come to NOVA with scholarships of \$5,000 each.

As of March 24th, the application period is now open for graduating high school seniors interested in entering the NOVA Engineering Technology program. The scholarship will be awarded in May 2021 and will be applied to the Fall 2021 and Spring or Summer 2022 semesters.

[Learn More](#)



## **REMINDER: County Seeks to Partner with Broadband Service Provider to Apply for State Telecommunications Grant**



**Update 3/25/2021: The deadline for final submission has been extended to April 14, 2021.**

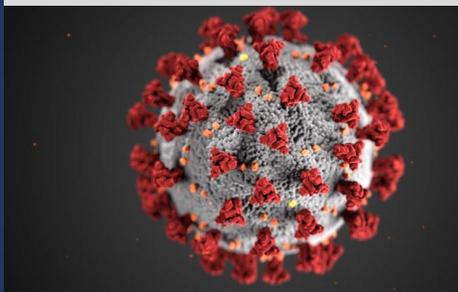
Loudoun County is seeking expressions of interest from broadband service providers to partner with the county in applying for a Virginia Telecommunications Initiative

(VATI) grant to expand access to broadband in unserved or underserved areas of the county.

The county will begin to review and evaluate all responses as they are received. Final submissions are due April 14, 2021 (originally April 7, 2021).

More information about the grant opportunity, including the formal "Request for Expressions of Interest" document, may be found at [loudoun.gov/broadband](https://loudoun.gov/broadband).

## Stay Informed!



The county continues to encourage everyone in the community to take steps to limit the spread of COVID-19, which include:

- Wear a mask/face covering ([see requirements](#))
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer only if soap and

**LOUDOUN  
COUNTY**  
—  —  
**VIRGINIA**

Loudoun County encourages residents to stay informed about COVID-19

- To receive email updates on COVID-19, visit [loudoun.gov/coronavirus](https://loudoun.gov/coronavirus).
- Text **LCCOVID19** to **888777** to receive text alerts from Loudoun County about COVID-19.
- Envíe un mensaje de texto con **LCCOVIDESP** al **888777** para actualizaciones diaras relacionadas con el coronavirus (COVID-19) en el condado de Loudoun.

water are not available.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Avoid non-essential travel.

Residents with questions about COVID-19 may call the Loudoun County Health Department's information line, 703-737-8300, or email [health@loudoun.gov](mailto:health@loudoun.gov).

## Supervisor Koran T. Saines

Sterling District Supervisor  
Loudoun County Board of Supervisors  
[703-777-0204](tel:703-777-0204)

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STAY CONNECTED



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Customer Contact Data Notice

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