



Supervisor

Caleb A. Kershner

Catoctin District



Loudoun County
VIRGINIA



This Week - Spring Farm Tour, Business Grants Contest

Dear Catoctin Residents,

There are two major events this week that you'll want to know about. The first one is the [2021 Spring Farm Tour](#), which is a great way to learn about and support our local farms and rural businesses. The second one is the [2021 Loudoun Innovation Challenge](#), which offers \$150,000 in grants to six qualifying businesses who are developing innovative products and services.

Both of these events are happening this week. The Farm Tour kicked off this Monday with their online offerings, while the Innovation Challenge's application window will be open all of this week (it closes at noon on Monday, May 17). Here are the highlights for each event.

2021 Spring Farm Tour Has Begun



Image Credit: [Screenshot](#) from "Coming Home: Wine," by Visit Loudoun, VisitLoudoun.org

Loudoun County's [2021 Spring Farm Tour](#) has begun! Organized by our Department of Economic Development, the tour highlights Loudoun's farms and rural businesses. This year they've arranged a hybrid model, starting by featuring different farms on the Loudoun Farms [website](#) and [social media](#), then building up to in-person events over the weekend (May 15-16).

Most of the farms on the Tour are also part of the [Loudoun Made, Loudoun Grown Marketplace](#). This is an e-commerce portal that Economic Development built last year to support our local farms - it's like an online farmer's market, where customers can find and buy the produce they want, but where the actual transaction is done directly with the farmer or rural business.

[View the Tour](#)

**2021 Loudoun Innovation Challenge:
\$150,000 in Grants for Six Winning Applicants**



Image Credit: [Graphic](#) from 2021 Innovation Challenge webpage, Biz.Loudoun.org

The [2021 Innovation Challenge](#) promotes entrepreneurship and business growth in Loudoun. It does this by offering grants to top business applicants who are developing innovative ideas that can bring economic benefits to the County and its residents.

This year, the program is offering \$150,000 in grants to six winning businesses. The application window is open right now and will stay open until noon on Monday, May 17. The Department of Economic Development's [website](#) has details about each of the grants, how applications will be scored, and more.

[Learn More](#)

Sincerely,

Supervisor Caleb A. Kershner

*Catoctin District Supervisor
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