



Weekly Newsflash

MARCH 16, 2023

Loudoun County Hosts Northern Virginia Housing Expo April 1

Loudoun County is hosting the 13th annual Northern Virginia Housing Expo on **Saturday, April 1, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at Dominion High School, 21326 Augusta Drive in Sterling.

Anyone looking for an affordable place to live in Northern Virginia is encouraged to visit the expo, which will showcase both homeownership and rental opportunities and resources throughout the region.

The event will feature workshops, an exhibit hall and free one-on-one financial coaching sessions. Staff from the Loudoun County Department of Housing and Community Development will participate in two panels to share information on Loudoun County programs for renters and homebuyers. Other workshop topics include credit scores, fair housing, household budgeting and a home sale market overview.

Free Resources for Renters & Homebuyers

Northern Virginia Housing Expo
Saturday, April 1, 2023
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Dominion High School
21326 Augusta Drive
Sterling



Details: loudoun.gov/housing

LOUDOUN COUNTY VIRGINIA

The expo is a cooperative effort of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties; the cities of Alexandria, Falls Church and Manassas Park; Virginia Housing; the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (District of Columbia/National Capital Area Office); Northern Virginia Association of Realtors®; and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Details about the event as well as a year-round virtual exhibit hall are available at novahousingexpo.org. Additional resources for homebuyers and renters in Loudoun County are available at loudoun.gov/housing.

Anyone who needs to request language interpretation or accommodations for any type of disability in order to participate in this event should contact the Department of Housing and Community Development at [703-737-8323](tel:703-737-8323) or [by email](mailto:). Five days' notice is requested.

'Fair Housing for People with Disabilities' Training Offered April 11



In recognition of April as Fair Housing Month, the [Loudoun County Disability Services Board](http://loudoun.gov) will sponsor a virtual training, "Fair Housing for People with Disabilities," **Tuesday, April 11, 2023, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.** The training may be of particular interest to developers, builders, real estate agents, leasing

agents, landlords, mortgage companies, homeowners' associations, housing providers, nonprofit organizations and government employees.

The training will be conducted by a Fair Housing training specialist from the [Virginia Fair Housing Office](http://virginiafairhousing.org). The session meets the requirements for real estate continuing education and fair housing certification.

Topics to be covered include:

- Accessibility in Construction.
- Exemptions in the Virginia Fair Housing Law.

- Group Homes.
- History of the Virginia Fair Housing Law.
- Protected Classes.
- Restrictive Covenants and Retaliation.
- Unlawful Discriminatory Housing Practices.
- Updates on Fair Housing.

Virginia's Fair Housing law makes it illegal to discriminate in residential housing on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, family status or disability.

The Fair Housing training is free and open to the general public; however, [advanced registration is required](#).

For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation for any type of disability or language assistance in order to participate in this training, [email the Office of Public Affairs and Communications](#) or call [703-777-0113](tel:703-777-0113). Three days' notice is requested.

Loudoun 2023 Bike to Work Day

Registration is open for Bike to Work Day 2023, planned for Friday, May 19.

The annual Bike to Work Day event celebrates a healthy and fun way to get to work at 100 different pit stops throughout the Metropolitan Washington region. Participants will ride to a pit stop, pick-up free t-shirts and giveaways, and enjoy refreshments before beginning the workday.

Adults planning to participate in this free event are encouraged to [register online](#) to pick up a T-shirt at one of our Loudoun County pit stops. Both pit stops are adjacent to the Washington and Old Dominion (W&OD) Trail in:

- Leesburg at Raflo Park on Harrison Street, from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.; and



- Sterling, just east of Route 28, at the Sterling Ruritan Club, 183 Ruritan Road, from 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

To find your pit stop, [use the Find Your Pit Stop tool](#).

[Bike to Work Day](#) is coordinated regionally by the Washington Area Bicyclist Association and Commuter Connections, and is held rain or shine. The event attracts thousands of cyclists in the region. The local arrangements are planned by Loudoun County Commuter Services.

For more information, including promotional materials, [email Judy Galen](#) with Loudoun County Commuter Services, or call [703-737-8044](#).

Bicycling Resources

- [Bike to Work Day Website](#)

Help Us Get the Word Out

Help us promote Bike to Work Day by sharing a photo or testimonial about your experience [by email to Loudoun County Commuter Services](#).

First Household Hazardous Waste Event of 2023 is March 18 in Leesburg

Household Hazardous Waste Event

Sat., March 18, 2023
Leesburg Park and Ride
19730 Sycolin Road
Leesburg
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



LOUDOUN
COUNTY
VIRGINIA

loudoun.gov/hhw

The first Loudoun County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection event of 2023 is scheduled for **Saturday, March 18, 2023, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**, at the Leesburg Park and Ride, 19730 Sycolin Road in Leesburg. Loudoun residents are welcome to bring HHW from their homes to the event, free of

charge.

Event Procedures

Because of safety concerns related to the handling of various types of hazardous materials, the events feature a drive-through process in which residents are

instructed to remain in their vehicles and allow event staff to unload any items accepted for disposal. To ensure everyone remains in their vehicle while at the point of service, items must not be in sealed or tied plastic bags. Staff are not allowed to open any plastic bag containing HHW.

Future Loudoun County HHW Events

(All events are from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.)

- Saturday, April 15, 2023, Harmony Park and Ride, 39464 East Colonial Highway, Hamilton
- Saturday, May 13, 2023, One Loudoun Park and Ride. 20360 Savin Hill Drive, Ashburn

[View the schedule of HHW events in 2023](#)

HHW Contact Information

For more information about the Loudoun County Household Hazardous Waste Program, call [703-771-5500](tel:703-771-5500) or visit loudoun.gov/hhw.

For a full list of what items will be accepted and items that are not permitted, [click here](#).

Loudoun to Host Two Upcoming Job Fairs

The Loudoun Workforce Resource Center is hosting two upcoming Loudoun Job Fairs:



LOUDOUN JOB FAIRS

Saturday, March 18, 2023
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Loudoun County Parks, Recreation and Community Services
742 Miller Drive SE, Leesburg, VA 20175

Wednesday, April 5, 2023
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Loudoun Valley Community Center
320 W. School Street, Purcellville, VA 20132

View details and register: loudoun.gov/LoudounJobFair

Loudoun County VIRGINIA
VIRGINIA CAREER TRAINING

- **Saturday, March 18, 2023**, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., at the Loudoun County Parks, Recreation and Community Services administrative offices, 742 Miller Drive SE, Leesburg.
- **Wednesday, April 5, 2023**, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., at the Loudoun Valley Community Center, 320 W. School Street, Purcellville.

Each of the Loudoun Job Fairs will feature several local employers with full-time, part-time and seasonal job openings in Loudoun County. Immediate opportunities are available in the fields of customer service, education, finance, government, hospitality, law enforcement, leisure, non-profit, retail, staffing, transportation and waste management.

Job seekers are encouraged to prepare for the fair:

- Attend one of the preparatory workshops; multiple sessions available:
 - “Ready, Set, Go to the Job Fair.”
 - Register at loudoun.gov/loudounjobfair.
- Get a free copy of “Turn a Job Fair Into a Job Offer:”
 - Call 703-777-0150 or [email the Workforce Resource Center](mailto:workforce@loudoun.gov).
- Dress professionally and bring multiple resume copies to the job fair.

Those planning to attend the job fair are encouraged to pre-register at loudoun.gov/loudounjobfair to receive reminders and updates.

Anyone who requires an accommodation for any disability in order to participate, including language assistance, should contact the Loudoun Workforce Resource Center at 703-777-0150. Three days’ notice is requested.

For more information, contact the center at 703-777-0150 or visit loudoun.gov/wrc.

REMINDER: Free St. Patrick’s Day Lyft Rides Offered Throughout Greater Washington to Prevent Drunk Driving

Keep the Luck of the Irish Alive. Don't Drink and Drive!
If you're celebrating St. Patrick's Day with alcohol, designate a sober driver or use WRAP's SoberRide® powered by Lyft!



SoberRide®

Get a FREE Lyft ride home (up to \$15) on St. Patrick's Day
Visit www.SoberRide.com for code
Limited quantities available

Enter the code in the app's 'Payment' tab under the 'Add Lyft Pass' option. Valid for up to \$15 off one ride taken home in the Washington D.C. coverage area from 4:00 p.m. Friday, March 17, 2023 until 4:00 a.m. Saturday, March 18, 2023. You must be 21 or older to use this service. Subject to Lyft's Terms of Service. Valid for new and existing Lyft users while supplies last. The SoberRide® code will be released to the public at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 17, 2023 and can be used only during the aforementioned period.

2023 EXECUTIVE SOBERRIDE® SPONSORS:	2023 GOLD SOBERRIDE® SPONSORS:	2023 SILVER SOBERRIDE® SPONSORS:	2023 PUBLIC PARTNER SOBERRIDE® SPONSORS:
amazon ENDY RESPONSIBLY. DRINK WISER. lyft	Corona Extra Enterprise MOLSON COORS BEER	BECK'S BEER Giant GLORY DAYS RAHW VINTAGE	d. cc MCT SMITHSONIAN
	ACORN MARTIN'S TAVERN		

The Dubliner Restaurant & Pub • Kelly's Irish Times • Martin's Tavern Est. 1933 • O'Sullivan's Irish Pub • Spanky's Shenanigan's

Some restrictions apply. See www.SoberRide.com for further details or call WRAP at 703.893.0461.
Limited quantities available. Valid for new and existing Lyft users that are 21 years of age or older. One offer per user. Valid for up to \$15 off one (1) ride taken home in the Washington, D.C. coverage area from 4:00 p.m. Friday, March 17, 2023 until 4:00 a.m. Saturday, March 18, 2023. Discount does not apply to cancellation fees, damage charges, or taxes. No cash value. May not be sold, transferred, or combined with other offers. Subject to Lyft's Terms of Service.
SoberRide® is a registered trademark of the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP).

Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the 2023 St. Patrick's SoberRide® program will be in operation beginning at 4:00 p.m. Friday, March 17th (St. Patrick's Day) and operate until 4:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 18th as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk period.

During this twelve-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download the Lyft app to their phones, then enter the SoberRide® code in the app's 'Promo' section to receive their no-cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home. WRAP's

2023 St. Patrick's Day SoberRide® promo code will be posted at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 17th on www.SoberRide.com.

SoberRide® is offered throughout Lyft's Washington D.C. coverage area which includes all or parts of: the District of Columbia; the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's and towns therein plus the cities of Bowie, College Park, District Heights, Gaithersburg, Glenarden, Greenbelt, Hyattsville, Laurel, Mount Ranier, New Carrollton, Rockville, Seat Pleasant and Takoma Park; and the Northern Virginia counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William and towns therein plus the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park.

More information about WRAP's SoberRide® initiative can be found at www.SoberRide.com.

The 2023 Cloud Run Takes Off on March 25 in Loudoun County

In honor of International Data Center Day, an anticipated three hundred fifty runners and walkers will be coming together to participate in the inaugural 2023 Cloud Run on **Saturday, March 25 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.** in Sterling!

The 7x24 Exchange DC Chapter will be hosting this event and invites schools, businesses, and residents of all ages to join the data center industry for a day of fun, excitement, and discovery of the IT backbone of the cloud. Participants can start the day

with a 1-mile Fun Run and 4.99999k run/walk around Data Center Alley or jump right into the Data Center Discovery Zone hosted by the Data Center Coalition.

The Data Center Discovery Zone adds educational and workforce development components to the event. Hosted by the Data Center Coalition, the Discovery Zone will be open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will have hands-on activities and interactive opportunities to learn everything about data centers from experts.

The Discovery Zone will have several different stations with age-appropriate activities. Hands-on activities will be available for smaller children while high school students and current and prospective college students can learn about education opportunities. Career changers and explorers can dive into the workforce development aspect of the Discovery Zone and learn about retooling and reskilling opportunities as industry representatives will be present to discuss different career opportunities within the industry.

This is the inaugural year for this unique event and the proceeds will benefit the Dulles South Soup Kitchen and the 7x24 Exchange DC Chapter Scholarship Fund.

Live music and food trucks will be present during the event, with diverse cuisine options, such as Mexican, Thai, American available, as well as dessert and beer trucks. Race registrants will receive food and drink vouchers with their paid registration.

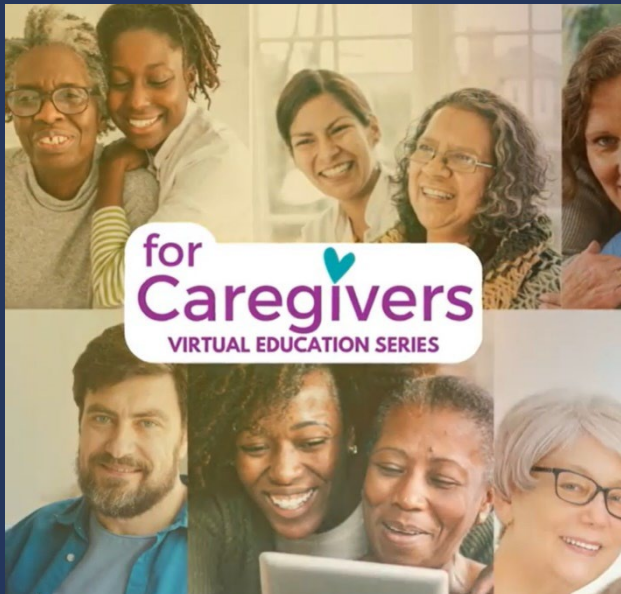


The Discovery Zone is free and open to the public. To learn more and reserve a spot, [please visit http://bit.ly/40DMqpw](http://bit.ly/40DMqpw).

To learn more, register for the race, or become a sponsor, please visit <https://www.7x24dc.org/2023-cloud-run>.

Online registration for the race closes on Thursday, March 23 at 8 p.m., however late registrations will be available during packet pickup and on race morning. Sponsorships are still open for the 2023 Cloud Run.

Upcoming Virtual Caregiver Events with the Area Agency on Aging



Are you caring for an aging loved one? Find support and resources in our Loudoun County Area Agency on Aging Caregiver Virtual Education Series programs happening this April.

This free series for anyone providing care and support to a loved one includes life care planning and real-life tools you can use as you navigate the difficulties of being a care partner.

The Journey of Caregiving and Financial Responsibility

Tuesday, April 11, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Presented by Brandt Zimmerman, Merrill Lynch Wealth Management

Parkinson's – Moving Forward After a Diagnosis

Tuesday, April 25, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Presented by Sonia Gow, Inova Parkinson's and Movement Disorders Center

You can find more information on the educational programs at <https://bit.ly/WinterAAACaregiverSeries>.

To register for these free virtual programs, call [571-258-3490](tel:571-258-3490) or email the Area Agency on Aging at aaasupport@loudoun.gov.

The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) is a division of the Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services. Loudoun County AAA offers family caregivers numerous resources, including support groups and educational events to provide support and insight.

Enter the 2023 Loudoun Arbor Day Photo Contest

The annual Loudoun County Arbor Day tree photo contest is underway. This year's theme is "Trees of Character." Photos will be accepted through Wednesday, April 12, in advance of the virtual Loudoun County Arbor Day Celebration. Winning photos and honorable mentions are scheduled to be posted on the county's website at loudoun.gov/trees on April 28.



Entries must be:

- A photo of a single tree or group of trees located in Loudoun County.
- Original photos taken by the entrant.
- Digital and submitted through [this online form](#). High resolution photos are encouraged. Only two entries allowed per person or group.

Entrants are asked to provide a brief explanation of why they think the tree they photographed has a unique character. For example, does the tree (or trees) have a unique size, prominence, age, shape, trunk, cavity or other feature that makes it a great "tree of character?"

Awards will be distributed to the top three photos. Only the winning and honorable mention entrants will be notified. Photos will not be returned and will become the property of the Loudoun County Arbor Day committee.

For more information about the photo contest, including a link to the online entry form, visit loudoun.gov/trees.

Construction Update Meeting Scheduled March 29 for Loudoun County Courthouse Complex Expansion



**Loudoun County Courthouse Complex
Expansion Project**

**March 29, 2023
6:00 p.m.**

**Virtual
Construction Update**

Join us!

LOUDOUN COUNTY VIRGINIA Transportation and
Capital Infrastructure

loudoun.gov/Courts-Expansion

Loudoun County invites members of the public to attend a virtual construction update on the Loudoun County Courthouse Complex expansion project, currently underway at the corner of Church Street and Edwards Ferry Road in Leesburg. Meeting attendees will receive an update on the construction progress of the

new General District Courthouse, the current timeline for the remainder of the construction project, and a preview of the inside of the new building. Members of the public may also ask questions about the project through the virtual meeting's question and answer function.

A virtual construction update is scheduled for Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Information on how to access the meeting is available on the [project webpage](#) as well as on the county's online public calendar, loudoun.gov/calendar.

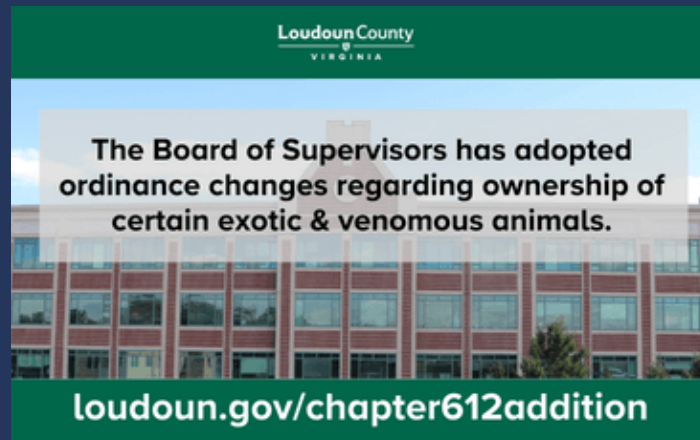
The project is part of an expansion of the Loudoun County Courthouse Complex and includes the design and construction of a new 92,000-square-foot courthouse, renovation of the existing courthouse and historic Valley Bank building, as well as improved parking lots and pedestrian access to the courts buildings. Construction of the new building is expected to be completed in the coming months with the building opening to the public in fall 2023.

Visitors to the Loudoun County Courthouse will continue to have access to the existing building throughout the construction project. Free parking is available in the Pennington parking lot and garage, which is located off Church Street NE, approximately two blocks from the courthouse. For more information about the courts, visit loudoun.gov/courts.

More information, including a link to sign up for updates on the project, can be found at loudoun.gov/courts-expansion.

Board of Supervisors Adopts Addition to Animals Ordinance

The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors has adopted a new section of Chapter 612, Dogs and Other Animals, of the Codified Ordinances of Loudoun County that prohibits ownership of certain exotic and venomous species of animals that present a risk to public health and safety.



The revised ordinance prohibits private ownership of certain types of exotic and venomous animals, such as wolf hybrids, kangaroos, scorpions, baboons, alligators, venomous snakes and other venomous reptiles, and non-native venomous spiders.

The new section of the ordinance also prohibits the breeding of such animals. Virginia law already restricts private ownership of many other wild and exotic animals, such as big cats and bears. The ordinance does not impact entities that are licensed or permitted through the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources or other state or federal agencies to house restricted species, such as zoos, exhibitors or rehabilitators.

The amended ordinance allows current owners of the listed animals to keep them but would require those animals be registered through a process the county will establish to ensure awareness by first responders in the event of an

emergency. The registration period is from March 9 - May 8, 2023. Details about the registration process and a link to the form are [online here](#).

Adoption of the ordinance on March 7, 2023, came after an extensive public process, which included a public information meeting hosted by Loudoun County Animal Services, an online comment form on the county website and a Board of Supervisors public hearing.

[Read the Full Press Release](#)

VCE Loudoun Master Gardeners Present: The 'Awesome' Health Benefits of Gardening



The physical health benefits of gardening are well known: exercise, strength building, and fresh air. What about the impact of nature and gardening on our emotional and mental health? How can plant care be 'self-care'? How does the experience of 'awe' help us re-energize and counter the negative

effects of screen time and social media? Join VCE Loudoun and learn how gardening can help us cultivate and reap a multitude of health benefits. You'll explore evidence-based strategies to incorporate 'awe' into your time in the garden.

The 'Awesome' Health Benefits of Gardening

Part of VCE Loudoun Master Gardener's Free Virtual Lecture Series

- April 13, 2023
- 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Hosted by Loudoun County Public Library
- [Sign up for event reminders.](#)

Event Details:

- To View the Event: tinyurl.com/48yydyej
- Password: LCPL

Speaker Bio:

- A lifelong gardener, Jan Lane became a registered horticultural therapist in 2016. She works with patients recovering from spinal cord injuries, traumatic brain injuries, and strokes during inpatient rehabilitation. She serves on the board of the MidAtlantic Horticultural Therapy Network and is a member of the Loudoun County Master Gardeners.

[The 'Awesome' Health Benefits of Gardening \(PDF\)](#)

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

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

[Loudoun County
Government](#)

[Sterling District
Supervisor Page](#)

[Email
Koran T. Saines](mailto:Koran.T.Saines)

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