



Weekly Newsflash

APRIL 19, 2023

Sterling Foundation Project Clean Stream Saturday, April 22nd



Join the Sterling Foundation on Earth Day, April 22, 2023, for their annual Stream Clean Up, as part of the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's ongoing efforts to maintain the health of viability of the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed. Help remove trash and debris from waterways that feed the Cabin Branch Stream in Sterling Park, Va.

Easy access to the stream area and shallow water make this event appropriate for all ages. Trash bags will be provided. Gloves, grabbers and

team leader vests will be available on a first come basis. Rubber boots, gloves, long sleeves and long pants are recommended. All children, including students and youth groups, ages 17 and under, are welcome and must be accompanied by an adult. Group ratio is one adult per eight students/children.

The starting location is Sterling Middle School, 201 W Holly Ave, Sterling, VA 20164, 8:30am-3:00pm. All participants must register at [Sterling Foundation Project Clean Stream - Chesapeake Network](#).

For more info, contact Norida Torriente at stream@sterlingfoundation.org or visit www.sterlingfoundation.org/stream.

For over 35 years, the nonprofit Sterling Foundation, has worked with a network of volunteers to beautify Sterling's surroundings, engage with neighbors and foster a welcoming and inclusive community.

Update: Sterling Blvd. Streetlights Project

After resolving long-standing supply chain issues, Dominion Energy will begin installation of new streetlights at the approved Sterling Blvd. intersections by the end of the month.



Dominion crews began marking pole locations on Monday, April 17th, and construction and installation will begin shortly. Please note that there may be slight traffic delays or impacts during installation, but they should be minimal.

Installation is expected to be completed by the end of June 2023.

Installations will occur at the following intersections:

1. Sterling Boulevard at Greenthorn/Staunton Road
2. Sterling Boulevard at Maple Street
3. Sterling Boulevard at Holly Street
4. Sterling Boulevard at Beech Street
5. Sterling Boulevard at Church Road
6. Sterling Boulevard at East Frederick Street

**Department of Building & Development
Closed to In-Person Services April 26**

Temporary Closure April 26

The Dept. of Building & Development will be closed Wed., April 26, 2023, for an all-day staff training.

In-person drop-off & pickup services will be available at the Government Center



loudoun.gov/BuildingandDevelopment

The Loudoun County Department of Building and Development will be closed to the public on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, for staff training. As a result, in-person services —with the exception of drop-off and pickup services —will temporarily be suspended for one business day. Anything that is submitted

online or dropped off on April 26 will not be processed until Thursday, April 27, when the department will reopen for normal operations.

Online Services

Online services will continue to be available, including:

- Submitting requests through the [Loudoun Express Request \(LEx\) system](#).
- [Submitting building and trade permit applications](#).
- [Submitting applications](#) for a variety of residential and commercial building projects.
- [Scheduling building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing and other inspections](#).
- [Applying for pre-submission meetings](#).
- [Emailing the department](#).

In-Person Drop-Off

The secure drop boxes for the public will continue to be available during the Department of Building and Development's one-day closure. Use the drop box to leave items such as permit and land development applications, which staff will process when the department reopens on Thursday, April 27. The drop boxes are located in lobby of the [Government Center](#).

In-Person Pickup

Members of the public also may continue to pick up items in person through the Department of Building and Development's pickup station, which is located in

the Purcellville Room on the first floor of the [Government Center](#). Following notice and receipt of instructions by county staff, the public may pick up items, such as permits and other documents provided by the county to residents, through this convenient, self-service system.

More Information

More information about the department's services, including contact information, is available at loudoun.gov/BuildingandDevelopment.

Loudoun Offers Mental Health Education & Substance Abuse Prevention Programs in April and May

Loudoun County offers ongoing mental health education and substance abuse prevention programs. All programs are free, but seats are limited and registration is required, with the exception of Rapid REVIVE!

The schedule of upcoming classes for April and May 2023 is as follows:

Mental Health Education & Substance Abuse Prevention Programs

New Classes in April & May 2023

- **Mental Health First Aid**
- **Opioid Overdose Reversal**
- **Suicide Prevention**

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loudoun.gov/mhsadsprevention

Mental Health First Aid

Mental Health First Aid offers training that teaches people how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. The trainings are usually held over a two-day period, with the class lasting for about three hours each day.

The next training of Adult Mental Health First Aid will be held:

- May 8 & 9, 2023, 12:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. each day. The in-person training will be at the Eastern Loudoun Services Center at 21641 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling

For details about the training and to register, visit loudoun.gov/mhfirstaid.

Opioid Overdose Reversal

REVIVE! is the opioid overdose and naloxone education program for the Commonwealth of Virginia. The training is free and anyone who uses opioids or knows someone who is using opioids is encouraged to attend a training.

- Visit loudoun.gov/rapidrevive for Rapid REVIVE! in English.
- Visit loudoun.gov/reviveespanol for Rapid REVIVE! in Spanish.

Virtual REVIVE! is a one-hour, scheduled training session that requires registration. Participants who complete the training are also eligible to receive free naloxone nasal spray. They may choose to receive naloxone by mail or arrange pickup.

The next scheduled training will be held:

- April 28, 2023, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

REVIVE! trainings can also be scheduled upon request. For details about the training and to register, visit loudoun.gov/revive.

Suicide Prevention Training

The Question Persuade Refer program offers training to help people recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and how to refer someone for professional help.

The next class will be held:

- April 27, 2023, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

For details about the training and to register, visit loudoun.gov/suicidepreventiontraining.

For More Information

For more information on the prevention and intervention services offered by the Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services, visit loudoun.gov/mhsadsprevention or [send an email](#).

LCPL Food Drive begins Saturday, April 22



Donate food for Loudoun residents in need!

Unopened, unexpired, nonperishable food items will be accepted at all 10 branches from April 22-30. Donations will be distributed by Loudoun Hunger Relief.

"This drive comes at a time when we're preparing for increased need due to inflation and emergency SNAP benefits shrinking," said Jennifer Montgomery, executive director of Loudoun Hunger Relief. "As we work to give families extra support, food drives like this are crucial to helping us continue filling the gaps."

Need food today?

There are organizations that can help you find something to eat today, and provide food for your pantry – all free of charge. Visit Loudoun Feeds for more information.

What to Donate

During LCPL's last food drive, held in 2019, customers donated 15,500 pounds of food. Please help us top that mark this year! Thank you for your support!

Items in need include:

- Cereal
- Granola bars
- Protein beans
- (black, pinto, baked beans, etc.)
- Canned meats (such as tuna or chicken)
- Rice and pasta
- Canned fruit
- Tomato sauce
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Soups
- Cooking oil

Note: LCPL cannot accept food that needs to be kept frozen or refrigerated, home-canned goods or soda.

Looking for other ways to help?

Loudoun Hunger Relief accepts donations year-round and offers many ways to give back to the community. Visit [their website](#) for a complete list of donatable items and volunteer opportunities.

Disability Resource Fair Set for May 12 at Rust Library

The Loudoun County Disability Services Board and The Arc of Loudoun will co-host a Disability Resource Fair, **Friday, May 12, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**, at Rust Library, 380 Old Waterford Road NW in Leesburg.

The free event is intended to highlight a wide variety of community resources available to people with disabilities. Participating organizations will include representatives of the Loudoun County government as well as organizations that provide educational, employment and recreational opportunities to Loudoun residents.

The [Loudoun County Disability Services Board](#) advises the Board of Supervisors on issues of importance to people with disabilities, their families and caregivers.

[The Arc of Loudoun](#), based in Leesburg, advocates for, educates, serves and supports people with disabilities and their families.

Anyone who requires a reasonable accommodation for any type of disability or needs language assistance in order to participate in the Disabilities Resource Fair should contact Loudoun County Public Affairs and Communications at [703-777-0113](tel:703-777-0113) or [by email](#). Three business days' notice is requested.



VCE Loudoun Master Gardeners Present: Transitioning to Native Plants



Interested in using native plants, but don't quite know where to start? Join Master Gardener Jane Kirchner as she shares examples of successful and stunning native plant landscapes, including gardens that provide year-round benefits for birds, butterflies, bees, and other wildlife. Jane will help you learn how to

select and grow optimal native plants for different conditions, yard-types, or for container gardens. She will also discuss where to find native plants in Northern Virginia.

Transitioning to Native Plants

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

- May 4, 2023
- 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Hosted by Loudoun County Public Library
- [Sign up for event reminders](#)

Event Details:

- View the Event: [Event URL](#)
- Password: LCPL

Speaker Bio:

After converting much of her suburban yard to native plants, grasses, shrubs and trees, Jane Kirchner went on to lead the transition of community common area landscaping towards native plants in her 2,500-acre planned community - including the establishment of pollinator gardens, a native meadow, replacing invasive trees with native trees and overhauling older beds to feature native plant species. She is championing the use of regionally native plants in new developments and landscape restoration as a Loudoun County, VA planning

commissioner. Jane works for the National Wildlife Federation and is a Master Gardener.

Loudoun County Latino Festival to Be Held May 7 in Leesburg

Join Loudoun County Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) for a free community festival hosted by the Douglass Community Center to celebrate and showcase the Latino culture throughout Loudoun County and the region.



The Loudoun Latino Festival will be held **Sunday, May 7, 2023, from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m.** at the Shenandoah Building, located at 102 Heritage Way, NE in Leesburg.

The Loudoun Latino Festival features live music and entertainment, food, giveaways, local businesses, nonprofit and commercial vendors, and children's activities, including face painting, crafts, moon bounces, stack cups, and more!

This event will be hosted rain or shine. In the case of severe weather, a cancellation notice will be posted on the Loudoun County website at loudoun.gov/prcs and [PRCS social media accounts](#).

For more information on the PRCS Loudoun Latino Festival, visit loudoun.gov/prcsevents.

Celebrate Earth Day with Loudoun County Parks, Recreation and Community Services



Celebrate our planet at the Loudoun County Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) annual Earth Day

Extravaganza on Saturday, April 22, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve.

Residents are invited to learn about environmental issues through hands-on activities and nature-themed crafts, participate in educational demonstrations and enjoy guided tours and family-friendly festival music and games while discovering ways to live more sustainably.

The Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve is located at 21085 The Woods Road, Leesburg, and is a designated [Virginia Treasure](#). Only a short drive from downtown Leesburg, the preserve is nestled alongside two miles of Goose Creek, a State Scenic River. The preserve's 695 acres of forests, succession fields, ponds, and streams provide residents the chance to explore and experience the exceptional beauty of Loudoun's natural habitats, wetlands, and waterways.

The Earth Day Extravaganza will be hosted rain or shine. In the case of severe weather, a cancellation notice will be posted on the Loudoun County website at loudoun.gov/prcs and [PRCS social media accounts](#). Available parking is limited; consider traveling as a group to the event.

For more information on the Earth Day Extravaganza and other great PRCS events, visit loudoun.gov/prcsevents.

Throughout the year, PRCS provides programs and spaces for environmental stewardship and fosters sustainability practices through conservation awareness and education. Learn more about PRCS' facilities, parks, and programs at loudoun.gov/prcs.

REMINDER: Drug Take Back Day is April 22, 2023

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office partners with local police departments and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in the "Take-Back" initiative that seeks to prevent increased pill abuse and theft.



DEA NATIONAL TAKEBACK

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Saturday, April 22, 2023
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

NOTE: LCSO locations will be open from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Stop by any of the below locations and safely drop off your unused or expired medications for safe disposal.

- LCSO Ashburn Station - 20272 Savin Hill Drive, Ashburn
- LCSO Dulles South Station - 25216 Loudoun County Parkway, Chantilly
- LCSO Eastern Loudoun Station - 46620 E. Frederick Drive, Sterling
- LCSO Western Loudoun Station - 47 W. Loudoun Street, Round Hill
- Leesburg Police - 65 Plaza Street, NE, Leesburg
- Middleburg Police - Town Hall, 10 W. Marshall Street, Middleburg
- Purcellville Police - Town Hall, 221 S. Nursery Avenue, Purcellville

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:
Prescription medications, Over-The-Counter Medications, Medical Samples, & Pet Medications. We will also be accepting vaping devices and cartridges- batteries must be removed.

NON-ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:
Needles, Epi-Pens, Batteries, Thermometers, IV Bags, Blood or Infectious Waste Liquids, Gels or Sprays.



Loudoun County residents will be able to discard potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs for destruction at several sites in the county on the next Take Back Day, Saturday, April 22, 2023, at seven sites in the county.

- Loudoun County Sheriff's Ashburn Station: 20272 Savin Hill Drive, Ashburn, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Dulles South Public Safety Center: 25216 Loudoun County Parkway, South Riding, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- **Loudoun County Sheriff's Eastern Loudoun Station: 46620 East Frederick Drive, Sterling, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**
- Loudoun County Sheriff's Western Loudoun Station: 47 W. Loudoun Street, Round Hill, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Town of Leesburg Police Department, 65 Plaza Street NE, Leesburg, 10:00 am. - 2:00 p.m.
- Town of Middleburg Police Department - 10 W. Marshall Street, Middleburg (Town Hall), 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Town of Purcellville Police Department: 125 Hirst Road, Purcellville, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

[Learn More](#)

2nd Annual LoCo Food Truck Festival



The 2nd Annual LoCo Food Truck Festival is coming to Segra Field and we are already hungry! This year it's double the food trucks and double the fun!

Enjoy a buffet-on-wheels at this free event on **Saturday, May 13** from

11:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. at Segra Field in Leesburg (42095 Loudoun United Drive) with a selection of the most incredible food trucks in the region!

Participate in this annual event, indulge your food cravings, and support local trucks! Enjoy live music, entertainment, and games, including a Cornhole tournament and axe-throwing. Registration is limited to 16 doubles on a first come first serve basis and players must be 18 years or older. Bags fly at 11:00 a.m.!

Cornhole Tournament registration here: <https://bit.ly/CornholeTour>

Time Well Spent: VCE Loudoun Recognizes Master Gardeners, Master Food Volunteers and 4-H Volunteers

This National Volunteer Week, VCE Loudoun expresses gratitude for the volunteers who serve Loudoun County as Master Gardeners, Master Food Volunteers and 4-H Volunteers. In 2022, over 500 VCE Loudoun volunteers contributed over 15,000 volunteer hours. Beyond the human impact, their efforts generated over \$450,000 in value for Loudoun County.



Master Gardeners

Over 140 Loudoun County Master Gardeners provide Loudoun County residents with gardening and natural resource conservation expertise through their programs: Help Desk, Garden Clinics, Demonstration Garden, Healthy VA Lawns, Site Assessment, Children's Education, Trainings, Lectures and Community Events.

This past year, VCE Loudoun Master Gardeners received five awards at the local, state and national level. The recognition included a resolution from the Virginia House of Delegates spotlighting the impact of the Master Gardeners' Pond, Stream, and Site Assessment program. Also, the Demonstration Garden won a 2022 Signatures of Loudoun Design Excellence Award in the "Legends" category, having served Loudoun County over the past 30 years.

Master Food Volunteers

Established in 2018, the small but impactful group of six Loudoun County Master Food Volunteers teach healthy food skills with programs such as "Cooking on a Budget" and a "Cooking Challenge," along with community outreach through programs such as the "Healthy Plate Club." Last year, Master Food Volunteers partnered with organizations such as Loudoun Hunger Relief, Sterling Elementary School and Inova to teach people cooking skills, meal planning and healthy eating. Their efforts reached more than 800 Loudoun County residents.

4-H Volunteers

Over 380 Loudoun County 4-H Volunteers created experiences to promote youth development, offering a range of programs including 4-H Clubs, Embryology, 4-H Junior Camp and local competitions. The embryology program, in partnership with Loudoun County Public Schools, reached over 17,000 students and exposed students to the life cycle with cute chicks. 4-H Junior camp offered youth 9-13 a chance to challenge themselves and have fun, all while fostering leadership development in the teenage camp counselors. See 4-H youth in action at the Loudoun County Fair July 25 - 29, 2023, where they will compete for prizes and auction their animals.

For More Information

To learn more about VCE Loudoun Programs, visit Loudoun.gov/extension or [e-mail Jess Yon](#).

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

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