



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE
~APRIL 17, 2020~

Updates from the Office of Governor Ralph Northam



[Governor Northam Announces New Actions to Expand Health Care Workforce](#)

[Governor Northam Requests Additional Federal Support for Virginia Workers, Economy](#)

[Virginia Dramatically Decreases Jail Population Following Guidance from Governor Northam](#)

NOVA to Offer Tuition-Free Summer Online Courses for Region's High School Students

NOVA understands the concerns facing area high school students and their parents in this time of uncertainty and growing financial insecurity.



To support these students, NOVA has launched a new summer schedule of ***tuition-free online classes*** for approximately 70,000 qualified Northern Virginia high school students.

This is a timely opportunity for rising and graduating seniors to JumpStart their summers and earn college credit by attending up to two online courses that will run from June 1 to July 15. The online courses have been selected because they fulfill not only NOVA degree requirements but also transfer to most colleges and universities.

[Learn More](#)

Economic Impact Payments



The Internal Revenue Service has started sending payments to taxpayers affected by COVID-19, referred to as [economic impact payments](#).

Payments are automatic for taxpayers who filed tax returns in 2018 and 2019 and most seniors and retirees.

If you are eligible for a payment, you can use the online tool, [Get My Payment](#), to check on payment date and update direct deposit information.

If you did not file a tax return for 2018 or 2019 and don't receive Social Security retirement, disability (SSDI), or survivor benefits and Railroad Retirement benefits, you can register for your payment using the [Non-filers: Enter Payment Info Here](#) tool.

Mental Health

Natural disasters – including such pandemics as the coronavirus outbreak – can be overwhelming and also can seriously affect emotional health.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration's (SAMHSA) Disaster Distress Helpline – [1-800-985-5990](tel:1-800-985-5990) (or text *TalkWithUs* to [66746](tel:66746))– provides 24/7, 365-day-a-year crisis counseling and support to anyone who is seeking help in coping with the mental or emotional effects caused by developments related to the coronavirus pandemic.



[Learn more about the Disaster Distress Helpline here](#)

Supporting Businesses During COVID-19



Loudoun Economic Development has launched more resources to support businesses during the pandemic, including re-instituting last year's successful "[Take Loudoun Home](#)" campaign in conjunction with Visit Loudoun and the Loudoun Chamber, as a call to action to

support local businesses.

Resources Include:

[Loudoun Made, Loudoun Grown Marketplace](#)

Loudoun's farm-to-consumer shopping experience is going digital with the launch of the Loudoun Made, Loudoun Grown Marketplace, an e-commerce platform that offers a one-stop-shop for consumers to support local farms.

Any farm or rural business in Loudoun County is eligible for participation, free-of-cost, on a platform that supports the sale of any fresh, frozen or value-added products, including craft beverages and artisan goods.

[Restaurants, Retail and Services](#)

This list of more than 200 businesses was compiled in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak as a way of encouraging local shopping. What started as separate lists on the Visit Loudoun, Economic Development and Chamber websites morphed into an interactive map that includes your location when viewed on a mobile browser.

Any business interested in being listed on this map can fill out a form and join the campaign on a rolling basis.

Future resources will feature positive business stories and virtual farm tours, and we will roll out more initiatives as part of the program soon.

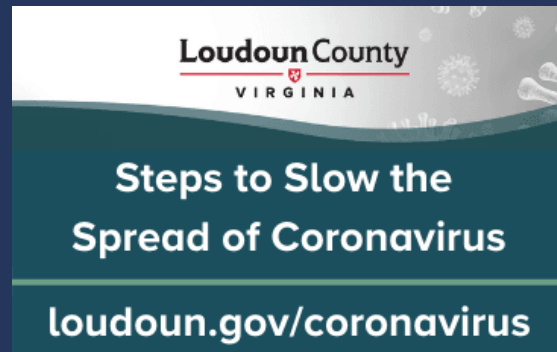
Loudoun Publishes Guide to Stop the Spread of COVID-19; Urges Residents to Self-Monitor

To assist residents with identifying the signs of illness and knowing what do to if they become sick, the county has published a guide; [Steps to Slow the Spread of COVID-19 \(PDF\)](#).

The guide lists steps that will slow the spread of COVID-19 in Loudoun and will help protect everyone, including seniors and those with underlying medical conditions.

The guide also provides important steps for notifying anyone with whom you have had close contact and other actions to take in the event you or a family member becomes sick, whether or not a COVID-19 test was taken.

[Find Out More](#)



Guidance for Faith Leaders and Faith Communities



Those who have suffered job loss from a place of worship *may now* be eligible for unemployment benefits. Applications for unemployment in English and in

Spanish can be found [here](#).

The Virginia Department of Health, Office of Health Equity has created a document, with over 500 questions from faith communities that summarizes VDH responses and is based on the most current information from the Unified Command Response Team and the Northam administration. Find faith leaders' documents translated in five major languages [here](#).

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact the Unified Command Health Equity Task Force leadership at DEIDirector@governor.virginia.gov or you can learn more about the work of the Health Equity Task Force [here](#).

Loudoun County Opens Second Drop-Off Location for Donations of Personal Protective Equipment

Loudoun County is opening a second location for drop-off donations of personal protective equipment (PPE) for distribution to Loudoun-based health care providers and facilities in need.

The second location is the Dulles South Recreation and Community Center (24950 Riding Center Drive, South Riding, VA) which will now operate Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

This is in addition to the Leesburg drop-off location at 751 Miller Drive, which operates Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[Read More](#)

Personal Protective Equipment



> **Donate or request equipment**
loudoun.gov/PPE

COVID-19 Impacts on College Admissions Applications

Students, parents, and guardians have many questions about how COVID-19 school closures could affect college admissions. The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) has put together a resource to help.



As of Friday, more than a thousand colleges and universities had provided their information, enabling the NACAC to launch a robust resource for students and families on behalf of the association and its members. This resource lists changes in college admission events, deposit dates and more.

[Find Out More](#)

Loudoun Establishes Rental Assistance Program in Response to COVID-19



The Loudoun County government has established a limited rental assistance program for Loudoun County households economically impacted by COVID-19.

The Board of Supervisors has approved re-allocating \$200,000 from the Eastern Loudoun County Home Revitalization Program to create the rental assistance program. The goal is to help ensure housing stability for low-income workers who have been furloughed, lost jobs or had work hours reduced due to the pandemic.

[Read more](#)

LCSO Announces Prescription Pick-Up & Delivery Service for Residents Vulnerable to Coronavirus

Loudoun County Sheriff Mike Chapman announced today a prescription pick-up and delivery assistance program for the county's senior residents and those who are more vulnerable to Coronavirus (COVID-19).

To participate residents must contact the LCSO at 703-777-1021 to request this service.

Residents may call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Deliveries will be made during normal business hours.

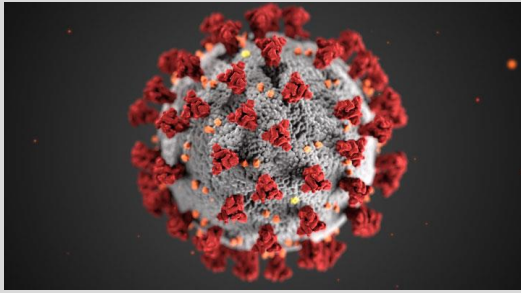
The service will be provided through the duration of Virginia Governor Ralph Northam's Executive Order which is effective until 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, June 10, 2020.

[Find Out More](#)



Stay Informed!

Keeping with the Board of Supervisors' policy, regularly scheduled meetings of the Board's [advisory boards, commissions and committees](#) are canceled while Loudoun County Public Schools are closed. The county will provide updated information on meeting status as this rapidly evolving situation continues. For the most current schedule, please visit loudoun.gov/calendar.



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

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer only if soap and 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.

LOUDOUN COUNTY VIRGINIA

Loudoun County encourages residents to stay informed about COVID-19

- To receive email updates on COVID-19, visit loudoun.gov/coronavirus.
- Text LCCOVID19 to 888777 to receive text alerts from Loudoun County about COVID-19.

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

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

Sterling District Supervisor
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STAY CONNECTED



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[About Constant Contact](#)

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