

Special Edition | Thursday, September 10, 2020

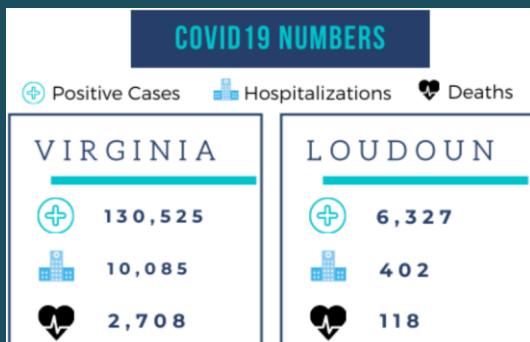
All About Algonkian



Juli E. Briskman | Algonkian District Supervisor



COVID-19 Update



Local and State COVID-19 Trends

A model used by the Loudoun County Department of Health estimates that COVID-19 cases will increase an average of 29 cases per day over the next six days. After experiencing an increase in the seven-day moving average throughout the latter half of

August, this metric has declined statewide since August 26. More information is available at both the [Loudoun County data dashboard](#) and [Virginia Department of Health website](#).



County Offers K-6th Grade Distance Learning Child Care Program

Loudoun County has launched a child care program that is open to the public beginning Tuesday, September 8, 2020. Following Loudoun County Public Schools' (LCPS) decision to begin the 2020-2021 school year with all distance learning, the county developed the program for families who may unexpectedly need child care for children in kindergarten through 6th grade.

Registration for the K-6 Distance Learning Child Care Program

The Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) is offering all-day child care for children in grades K-6 whose parents or guardians work while their children are enrolled in distance learning. The county is taking careful infection control measures to create a safe environment for children and PRCS staff, who will be operating the program.

The child care will be available at more than 20 sites throughout the county; however, capacity for the program is limited to 1,000 – 1,200 participants. Registration is now open and will remain open on a rolling basis as space in the program allows.

Parents have two options. A full day program that is open 7:40 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. is available for a monthly fee of \$1,005. Parents who are interested in the full day program should register for both the school day and the after school sessions. The second option is a school day only program that is open 7:40 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. for a monthly fee of \$660. LCPS Free & Reduced Lunch Program Participants are eligible for a 50 percent discount.

To register children in the county's child care program, visit loudoun.gov/DLchildcare. The county's website includes program and location details and online registration through the PRCS Webtrac system. Parents with questions about any PRCS program should [email PRCS](#).

PRCS and Library Services Continue

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services continues to operate a wide range of programs and services and all of its other facilities that are located throughout the county. In addition to the K-6 Distance Learning Child Care Program, the department's other child care programs, including CASA and YAS, also will operate as normally scheduled. Visit loudoun.gov/PRCS for more information.

The Loudoun County Public Library's seven other branches remain open to the public. While the Ashburn and Rust branches will temporarily discontinue indoor services, the two branches will be offering curbside pickup service. Customers are able to access Curbside service at each location Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Customers are encouraged to place holds through the online catalog or call the Ashburn (703-737-8100) or Rust (703-777-0323) libraries for assistance. For more information about library services at all locations, visit library.loudoun.gov.

Background on the establishment of the child care program is available [here](#). You can also view additional information about the program by [using this link](#).



Returning Home From a Campus Experiencing a COVID-19 Outbreak?

As colleges and universities revise their plans for in-person learning, students may be returning to Loudoun County from communities

that are experiencing increases in the number and percentage of positive COVID-19 cases.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 from these communities to family members and others in your household and in the greater community, the Loudoun County Health Department advises students and their parents to carefully consider quarantine guidance.

By keeping away from others, **quarantine** helps prevent the spread of disease that can occur before you know you are sick or if you are infected with the virus but don't have symptoms.

If you're returning home and you have recently been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, it is important that you quarantine for 14 days after your last contact with that person. During your quarantine, you should stay home, monitor your health and stay away from others in your house and community, especially people who are at higher risk for getting very sick from COVID-19, such as older adults.

If you're returning home after living on a college campus or in a community with rising positive cases, you should still consider quarantining whether or not you had a known contact with a person infected with COVID-19.

"Close contact" means:

- You were within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more;
- You provided care to someone who is sick with COVID-19;
- You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them);
- You shared eating or drinking utensils; and/or
- They sneezed, coughed or somehow got respiratory droplets on you.

If you have had close contact with someone who has COVID-19, you should:

- Stay home for 14 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19;
- Watch for fever (100.4°F), cough, shortness of breath or other symptoms of COVID-19; and

- If possible, stay away from others, especially people who are at higher risk for getting very sick from COVID-19.
 - Learn more about when to quarantine on the CDC's website.
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x=**independently organized TED event**

County Offers TEDx Speaking Opportunity for Teens & Young Adults

On Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020, the Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services and Loudoun Youth Advisory Council will host a virtual TEDxYouth@Brambleton event, "A House Divided."

The goal of the event is to leverage the power of adolescent and adult speakers in addressing divisions in society and how they can be overcome. A virtual information meeting for interested speakers between the ages of 13 and 21 will be held Saturday, Sept. 12, at 3 p.m.

Potential presentation topics for "A House Divided" include political polarization and societal divisions; mental health and available resources; cultural, ethnic and racial understanding and their place in determining beliefs and ideologies; and bridging the gaps between individuals and societies at odds.

To attend the informational session, complete the sign-up form at promo.tedxbrambleton.com/give-a-ted-talk. Those who want to speak at the November event can complete the application and upload their video at tedxbrambleton.com/application/. The deadline for speakers is noon Friday, Oct. 2, 2020.

TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks (18 minutes or less). The TEDx stage is not a place for political, pseudoscience, religious, commercial or promotional talks. Speakers will adhere to the guidelines outlined at storage.ted.com/tedx/manuals/tedxcontentguidelines.pdf.



Area Agency on Aging Offering Select Senior Trips

The Loudoun County Area Agency on Aging is offering a select number of trips for seniors this fall with enhanced safety measures in accordance with the [Forward Virginia Phase 3 Guidelines](#) and guidelines from the

Virginia Department of Health and Loudoun County Health Department. Destinations include the DC area, Pennsylvania and North Carolina. Visit [senior trips online](#) or call 703-258-3050 for more information.

Do you need to be tested for COVID-19?

Get assistance from the
Loudoun County Health Department.

Loudoun County Health Department
Information Line:
703-737-8300
Monday-Friday, 9am-6pm
Saturday-Sunday, 9am-5pm

Do you Need to be Tested for COVID-19?

To help slow the spread of COVID-19 in the community, testing people for the presence of the virus is important. Testing helps people know when they should isolate at home,

avoid contact with others to prevent the further spread of the virus, and to seek medical care.

While testing is widely available in the Loudoun community, some residents who would like to be tested may have difficulty getting tested if they do not have a health care provider who orders a test. In these instances, the Loudoun County Health Department is available to assist you.

Need Help?

If you are seeking guidance on testing or have other COVID-19 related questions, call the Loudoun County Health Department's information line at 703-737-8300, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.; and Saturday-Sunday (and holidays), 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. You may also email the Health Department at health@loudoun.gov.

What to Do if You Test Positive

If you test positive for COVID-19, take care of yourself and help prevent the spread:

- Stay home from work and school
- Monitor your symptoms
- Get rest and stay hydrated
- Cover your cough and sneezes
- Wash your hands often

- Stay away from others as much as possible
- Avoid sharing personal items.
- Clean all surfaces that are touched often

Learn more from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention about what to do if you are sick.

Please share any messages of hope you see. Submissions may be sent to Zachary Harris at zachary.harris@loudoun.gov and we'll share them in our updates and newsletter.



If you are having trouble paying your utilities because of COVID-19, visit the County's webpage on [COVID-19 Utilities](#). You will find program information on:

Columbia Gas
Dominion Power
Loudoun Water
NOVEC
Washington Gas
Wi-fi Connectivity

For More Current COVID-19 Information

Visit: www.loudoun.gov/CoronaVirus

Call: (703) 737-8300

Email: Health@Loudoun.gov

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Have an interesting comment you'd like to share? Want to see someone you know from Algonkian featured? [Email Rey Cheatham-Banks](#)

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