

Volume X | November 25, 2020



All About Algonkian

Juli E. Briskman | Algonkian District Supervisor



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From Supervisor Briskman

Dear Neighbors,

As we enter the holiday season I wish nothing but the best for you and yours.

However, we must use every precaution at our disposal to stop the spread of COVID-19. We are losing one American every minute to COVID right now and Loudoun's numbers have

spiked. The Health Department has reported that small gatherings are causing increased community spread and that Halloween festivities were a major contributor.

The Health Department does not recommend participating in moderate- and higher-risk activities, such as shopping in crowded stores, attending parades, indoor sporting events, or indoor gatherings. I know this is an unfortunate situation, but we have to make sacrifices in order to keep our most vulnerable family members, our neighbors, our frontline workers, and our community safe. The CDC is also recommending against even small gatherings with anyone who is not part of your immediate household. I implore you to stay home as much as you can, wear your mask, wash your

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hands, and remain socially distant from those who are not in your pod.

Loudoun County Public Schools have implemented bright lines that will trigger full closing again. We are dangerously close to meeting these metrics, which you can view [here](#). It is clear that if we do not stop community spread, then we will not be going back to school, our economy will continue to suffer, and it will take even longer for our entire region to get back to normalcy, which is what we all want. And more people will die!

I want to thank all who participated in this year's Algonkian's Got Talent. We had a celebratory night of performances and awards a few weeks ago. Further details and a playlist of the contestants is available below.

Lastly, I wanted to give some context to the gun ordinance measure that will be considered at public hearing in January or February. You can read the proposed ordinance [here](#). I am a strong believer that our citizens deserve to enter our public buildings and public parks without the threat of guns being present.

Stay well,

Juli

BOS Meetings

November's Board
of Supervisors
meeting will be held
Thursday, November
5th because of
Election Day.
Normally, the BOS
meets the 1st and
3rd Tuesdays of the
month. Public
Hearings are held
the Wednesday

after the 1st Board meeting.

Check out the [BOS Calendar](#) for upcoming meetings

Want to speak?
[Visit the county web page](#) for information.

QUICK TIPS

Can't find time to get to DMV? No problem. They will come to you with DMV2Go!!!

Apply for or renew your ID or driver's license, take road and knowledge tests and much more.

Check the DMV2Go [calendar](#) for upcoming dates and locations

Loudoun County Health Department hotline
(703) 737-8300

SCAMS

[IRS Issues Warning about Coronavirus-](#)



Thank You to LCSO Lt. Joshua Brumbaugh

I'd like to thank Lt. Joshua Brumbaugh for taking me on a "ride-along" in Eastern Loudoun. I particularly enjoyed his taste for classical music and learned a lot about the hardworking men and women we have keeping our community safe.



[Related Scams;
Watch Out for
Schemes Tied to
Economic Impact
Payments](#)

The Virginia Coronavirus Fraud Task Force and Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigations are warning taxpayers to be alert about possible scams relating to [COVID-19 economic impact payments](#).

[Virginia Coronavirus Fraud Task Force](#)

Eastern Virginia Coronavirus Fraud Coordinator, Assistant U.S. Attorney [Email](#) Kaitlin F. Cooke or 804-819-5416.

To report fraudulent activity to the Virginia State Police, Virginians can [Email](#) [Virginia Fusion Center](#).

To report a COVID-19 fraud scheme or suspicious activity, contact the National Center for Disaster Fraud (NCDF) by calling the NCDF Hotline at

Board Celebrates 100 Years of Women's Suffrage

Earlier this month, staff and women of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors celebrated 100 years of the Women's Suffragette Movement by wearing white.



Thank You to Our Health

Thank you to Our Health of Winchester for taking me on a tour of your incredible campus. Our Health assists vulnerable populations by providing space and support for nonprofit organizations like a free clinic, dentistry, child safe center as well as state, county and city services. Great concept.

1-866-720-5721 or
[send an email.](#)



VIRGINIA'S
HEALTH
IS IN YOUR
HANDS.

Do your part,
stay at home.



Congratulations to the 2020 Algonkian's Got Talent Winners!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the first ever Algonkian's Got Talent. We received 24 amazing submissions!

The winner in the category of Group Musical Act was Robert Manfriedi, from River Bend Middle School, and his band Antigravity for their performance of U2's Sunday Bloody Sunday

Josh Beyer, from Dominion High School, won in Solo Instrumental for his performance of Schubert Impromtu #3 in G Flat Major

Samantha Ankers, from Riverbend, took home the award for her solo dance performance

2nd place in the solo vocalists category went to Claudia Brohs for On my Own, from Les Misérables

1st place in the solo vocalist category went to Caroline Taylor, from Horizon, for her rendition of On my Own, from Les Misérables

The special honorable mention award went to Max Garrett, of Lowes Island Elementary School for Remember Me, from the Disney film, Coco

With 97 likes, Ava Buchner, from Lowes Island Elementary, was fan favorite for her vocal of Adele's Rolling in the Deep

Special thanks to our judges and guest performers , Todd Grivetti, Jordan Markwood, Robbie Taylor, and Mindy Padworski and thank you all for watching!

A playlist of the participants can be accessed [here](#).



Here's What's Happening with Traffic Around Algonkian

County transportation staff is currently researching two traffic study requests on Riverbank Street and Clifton's Point Street. In addition to visiting both sites, staff will also assess the existing conditions of the roads and compile data. Our office also forwarded the community's concerns regarding speeding at the intersection of Riverbank Street and Ox Bow Circle.

On Monday, November 30, 2020, Loudoun County is scheduled to begin traffic signal work at the intersection of Loudoun County Parkway and George Washington Boulevard, weather permitting. This work will be conducted during the day, Monday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. for about five days, ending the week of December 6, 2020.

The work will include removing the existing temporary traffic signals and installing four new traffic signal poles, mast arms, signal heads, pedestrian poles and other related activities necessary for the signalized intersection.

Flagging operations, lane closures and temporary traffic stoppages will be needed to safely install the mast arms and poles over traffic. Each traffic stoppage will last for approximately five minutes. Drivers should use extra caution when traveling through the area and follow all directions from the posted signs and road crews.

More information about this project, including a link to sign up for project updates, can be found at loudoun.gov/riversideparkway.



Celebrating the Holidays Safely

The Loudoun County Health Department encourages residents to plan their holiday celebrations and travel carefully to lower the risk of getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others. Those who choose to gather and travel over the holiday season should avoid high-risk activities.

Lower-Risk Activities

Celebrating virtually or with members within your household poses the lowest risk for spread of COVID-19. While transmission of COVID-19 continues, the CDC recommends that families participate in these lower-risk activities that can be enjoyed with family and friends at a safe distance:

- Small dinner gatherings with only people who live in your household.
- Preparing traditional family recipes for family and neighbors, especially those at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, and delivering them in a way that doesn't involve contact with others.
- Having a virtual dinner and sharing recipes with friends and family.
- Shopping online rather than in person on the day after Thanksgiving or the next Monday.
- Watching sports events, parades and movies from home.

If You Travel

Traveling during this holiday season increases your chances of getting and spreading COVID-19. Many jurisdictions also have imposed local restrictions on visitors that may impact your travel plans. The [CDC's Travel Planner](#) is a tool travelers can search to find COVID-19 information for the state and local communities they're passing through and for their destinations.



Cooking Safely During Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving and the holidays are full of excitement, good food and fun times with family. As preparations for the busy holiday season are underway, the Loudoun County Combined Fire and Rescue System encourages residents to follow safe cooking practices. Cooking is the leading cause of residential fires during the Thanksgiving holiday and throughout the year. Take a few moments to review these safety tips and ensure your holiday is memorable for all the right reasons.

- Stay in the kitchen while cooking on the stovetop. If you leave the kitchen, even briefly, turn off the stove. If baking, roasting, or broiling, set timers to remind you food is cooking.
- Keep combustibles, such as oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains, away from your stovetop.
- Maintain a three-foot safety zone for kids and pets around stove and hot appliances. Turn pot handles away so young children are less likely to get burned.
- Fried turkey fan? We recommend buying one from a grocery store or restaurant, or consider an oil-less turkey fryer. Hot oil from a turkey fryer can cause serious burns and destroy property.

Real Property Tax Deadline



Monday, December 7

For payment options, visit:
loudoun.gov/taxes

Loudoun County
VIRGINIA

Treasurer's Office: 703-777-0280
Email: taxes@loudoun.gov

**Real Property Tax Deadline is
December 7**

For safety and convenience, the Treasurer's Office encourages taxpayers to make their payments online or on the phone. Payments may be made:

- Online: loudounportal.com/taxes
- Through a mobile device: The Link2Loudoun app is available for free from the iPhone App Store and the Google Play Store. The app allows access to loudounportal.com/taxes to pay your taxes.
- Telephone: 1-800-269-5971 may be called 24 hours a day. During regular business hours, call 703-777-0280. Please have your account number and credit card number ready.
- By Mail: County of Loudoun, P.O. Box 1000, Leesburg, Virginia 20177-1000
- In Person: Treasurer's Office Locations
 - 1 Harrison Street SE, 1st Floor, Leesburg
 - 21641 Ridgetop Circle, Suite 104, Sterling



Nonprofit organizations providing core human services to vulnerable and disadvantaged residents of Loudoun County are encouraged to apply.

Key areas of focus:

- Prevention and Self-Sufficiency
- Crisis Intervention and Diversion
- Long-Term Support
- Improved Quality of Human Services

Mini-grants for smaller organizations are also available through a simplified application process.

loudoun.gov/nonprofitgrants

Loudoun Nonprofit Grant Funding Available

Loudoun's grant application process for human service nonprofit organizations is underway with the posting of the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY 2022) Human Service Nonprofit Grant Application at loudoun.gov/nonprofitgrants.

Tax-exempt, private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations that provide human services to Loudoun County residents in the areas of need identified and approved by the Board of Supervisors for FY 2022 are eligible to

apply for grants. The areas of need and the anticipated outcomes are:

- **Prevention and Self-Sufficiency:** Services focused on assisting individuals and families in becoming and/or remaining independent and stable, and providing tools, skills, strategies, and resources to individuals and families.
- **Crisis Intervention and Diversion:** Services provided to individuals and families in crisis to overcome immediate problems and reduce or prevent the need for more restrictive and expensive higher-level services.
- **Long-Term Support:** Services that focus on assisting individuals who have continuing, long-term support needs to remain healthy, safe and independent in the community.
- **Improved Quality of Human Services:** Services and opportunities provided to individuals, organizations and communities that enhance the quality, accessibility, accountability and coordination of services provided by community organizations.

Applications must be submitted by 4:00 p.m., December 21, 2020. The amount of funding for FY 2022 will be determined as part of the county's adopted FY 2022 budget. In FY 2021, the budget for human service nonprofit grant funding was \$1.1 million.

Mini-Grants Process

In addition to the standard nonprofit application grant process, a mini-grants process will once again be available for FY 2022 funding, providing a simplified application for any nonprofit applying for a grant of \$5,000 or less. The mini-grants program is designed for innovative small-scale projects and new or small organizations that may lack the capacity to write a larger grant.

COVID-19 Update

COVID19 NUMBERS



Positive Cases



Hospitalizations



Deaths

VIRGINIA



226,300



14,312



4,008

LOUDOUN



9,717



550



142

State and Local COVID-19 Trends

According to Loudoun's November 24 COVID-19 Summary Report, the County's seven-day test positivity rate is 7.9 percent. At the state level, Virginia has experienced a steady increase in its seven-day moving average for the entire month of November. More information about COVID-19 from the Virginia Department of Health can be accessed [here](#).

How has COVID-19 impacted your life?

lcwag.org/survey



COVID-19 Impact Survey

The Loudoun Commission on Women and Girls (LCWAG) is conducting a [survey](#) to understand the impacts of COVID-19. All women living in Loudoun County are invited to take this survey to identify issues and unmet needs in our community. Your feedback will help inform new programming for LCWAG and local leaders. Please take 5 to 10 minutes and complete the [survey](#) before December 9th at 5:00 pm. Thank you!



www.vdh.virginia.gov

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan

The federal government controls the distribution of the COVID vaccine and provides allocations to individual states. The CDC and the federal government have asked that each state create a draft vaccine plan that talks about how they will allocate the vaccine. Here is [Virginia's interim draft COVID-19 vaccination plan](#).

Though the CDC provides guidance, jurisdictions will have some authority to decide how to distribute the vaccine to populations. Here are the four recommended phases for regional vaccine distribution:

Phase 1 A: High risk health care workers and first responders. (Winter)

Phase 1 B: Individuals with comorbidities and underlying conditions; individuals in congregate care facilities (Winter)

Phase 2: Critical workers, older adults, educators (Winter)

Phase 3: Young adults, children, other critical workers who were not included in phase 2 (Spring)

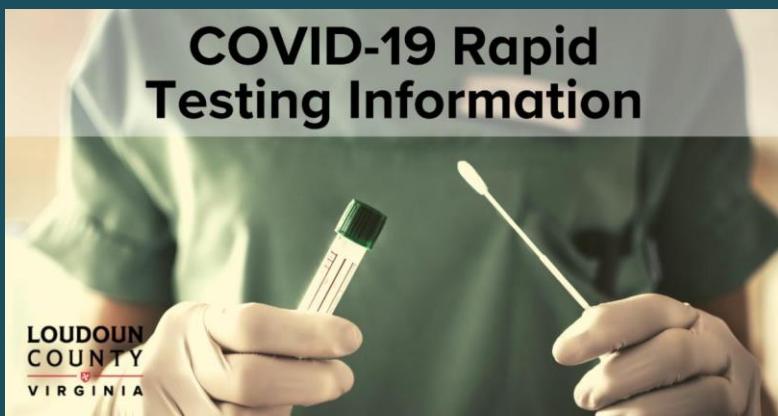
Phase 4: Everyone else (Spring)

Jurisdictions are looking at a variety of options for distributing the vaccine to individuals:

- Partnering with the private sector through existing health care channels
- The use of pharmacies to dispense medications
- Open public vaccination points

A vaccine coming does not mean we can stop all the precautionary and safety measures put forth by the CDC and VDH. We will get back to "normal" much faster if we keep wearing a mask, testing, tracing and following safety protocols.

COVID-19 Rapid Testing Information



COVID-19 Rapid Testing Information

What is a COVID-19 antigen test?

Like the PCR test, a COVID-19 antigen test is a type of viral test. A viral test tells you if you have a current infection by looking for parts of the virus itself through a swab of the back of the nose, mouth or throat. The antigen test looks for a specific protein on the surface of the virus while the PCR test looks for the virus' genetic material.

The sensitivity and specificity levels of antigen and PCR tests are different. Consequently, the [U.S Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#) says the risk of false positive and false negative results is higher with an antigen test than with a PCR test.

At this time, utilization of antigen testing may be beneficial in circumstances where an early indication would prove useful and where PCR testing would be utilized for confirmation purposes, such as those discussed below in the next section.

What type of test should I get?

The type of test you should get depends on your specific circumstances and should be discussed with your health care provider. In general, the Loudoun County Health Department recommends the PCR test when available and possible, which is considered the "gold standard."

Antigen tests could be considered in situations where PCR tests are not available or are subject to prolonged or excessive turnaround times. An example might be for symptomatic and asymptomatic residents and staff in congregate settings, such as nursing homes, where rapid turnaround times for disease screening is critical. Rapid tests generally should augment other testing efforts, such as a confirmatory PCR test.

In other instances, such as when an individual is traveling and requires proof of a very recent negative COVID-19 test, the rapid test can be useful if accepted by authorities in your travel destination. Generally, public health experts recommend the PCR test because it is more accurate. Additionally, the PCR test may be the only accepted type of test. If you must travel, your trip planning should include sufficient time for you to obtain the PCR test. Labs can often provide PCR test results within 48 hours.

How can I get tested?

Contact your health care provider if you have symptoms or have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 and therefore should be tested for COVID-19. Testing may be available at your doctor's office, urgent care center, pharmacy or other health care clinic.

To find a testing site nearby, visit the [Virginia COVID-19 Testing Sites website](#). Each testing site has different policies and procedures for testing and billing. Contact the COVID-19 testing provider to receive more information.

If you are specifically seeking a rapid test, look for providers near you. As of November 23, 2020, the following providers located in Loudoun County offer a rapid test for COVID-19 (Note: please contact the provider before visiting the location to confirm the availability and type of testing):

- [CVS MinuteClinic](#)
- [PM Pediatrics](#)
- [CareNow Urgent Care](#)
- [Walgreens](#)
- [ARCpoint Labs \(Herndon\)](#)

If you have questions about testing or need help finding testing, call the Health Department information line at 703-737-8300, Monday-Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or [send an email](#).



Take Loudoun Home

Loudoun Economic Development is partnering with Visit Loudoun and the Loudoun Chamber of Commerce to support small businesses across all industries with a refreshed version of the Take Loudoun Home for the Holidays guide.

Originally launched in 2019 to support farms and rural businesses, the 2020 holiday campaign has expanded to be inclusive of any small business in need of support during a year of unprecedented economic uncertainty. Review the Take Loudoun Home for the Holidays guide for unique local gifts, meals, services and experiences at TakeLoudounHome.com.

In light of COVID-19, local businesses are embracing extra safety precautions, with many in this year's guide taking the "Loudoun Is Ready" pledge to your well-being. This pledge, signed by more than 700 organizations, commits businesses to follow the latest guidance from the CDC and Virginia Department of Health.

In addition to the in-store experience, shoppers can support businesses through gift cards, curbside and

delivery options, outdoor dining, virtual events, the Loudoun Made Loudoun Grown Marketplace, and more.

While it will take years to fully understand the economic impact of COVID-19, a lot of the fundamentals of shopping locally remain the same.

Shopping from local farms helps to preserve Loudoun's robust rural tradition and decrease the environmental impacts of shipping. Becoming a regular retail and restaurant patron can help businesses budget for job creation, new lines of business and expansions. Booking overnight accommodations at Loudoun's unique bed-and-breakfasts and hotels is a great way for everyone to look forward to 2021.

To review a full list of participating tree farms, artisan gift shops, locally-sourced food, restaurants, retail, accommodations and more, please visit TakeLoudounHome.com.



State Offers Assistance to Unemployed Virginians

Loudoun County residents who have lost jobs, laid off, or had hours reduced due to COVID-19 can apply for a Re-Employing Virginians Initiative grant of up to \$1000

for training. The program is supported by a CARES Act grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia and administered by Fairfax County. To apply, contact Ziyoda Crew at 571-536-1979 or email DFSWorks@Fairfaxcounty.gov. Application deadline: Dec. 8.



Governor's Update

Governor Ralph Northam signed House Bill 5005, Virginia's revised biennial budget. The Governor called the General Assembly into special session on August 18 and has worked with legislative leaders to enact a spending plan that protects key priorities, preserves the Commonwealth's financial options, and addresses critical challenges that Virginians are facing amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The signed budget finalizes previously announced funding allocations that Virginia received under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, including:

- Vaccination Program: \$22 million for the Virginia Department of Health's vaccination preparation and planning through the end of 2020
- K-12 Schools: \$220 million for COVID-19 preparedness and response efforts in K-12 public schools, with all 132 school districts receiving at least \$100,000

- Higher Education: \$116 million to support ongoing COVID-19 response at public colleges, universities, and medical schools and \$22 million for the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia to provide payments to private institutions of higher education
- Child Care: \$65.8 million to increase access to child care and continue child care incentive grant program established in April
- Small Business Assistance: \$70 million to establish the Rebuild VA economic recovery fund providing grants to small businesses and nonprofit organizations impacted by the pandemic and \$30 million in additional funds to continue the program
- Broadband Accessibility: \$30 million to fast-track broadband projects in underserved localities
- Home Health Workers: \$73 million to provide hazard pay to home health personal attendants who served high-risk populations during the early months of the pandemic
- Workforce Training for Unemployed Virginians: \$30 million to establish the Re-Employing Virginians initiative providing scholarships to individuals who enroll in programs in high-demand fields
- Rent and Mortgage Relief: \$12 million to expand the Virginia Rent and Mortgage Relief Program launched in June
- Food Banks: \$7 million to help Virginia food banks meet increased demand for food assistance
- Medicaid Day Support Providers: \$25 million to fund monthly retainer payments for day support programs that provide services for Virginians with developmental disabilities.
- Free Clinics: \$3 million to reimburse members of the Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics for COVID-19 expenses

Utility Shutoff Protections

The budget signed today includes \$100 million in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) to support jurisdictional and municipal utility customers facing financial hardship due to the public health crisis. It also directs the State Corporation Commission to establish an application process for distributing the funds to utilities

so they can efficiently provide direct assistance to eligible customers.

The budget also puts in place a moratorium on utility disconnections, including water and electricity, which will remain in effect until the Governor determines that the economic and public health conditions have improved such that the prohibition does not need to be in place or until at least 60 days after the declared state of emergency ends. The budget includes protections for utility providers dealing with revenue shortfalls and establishes a repayment plan to give customers the opportunity to pay off back debt over a longer period.

Eviction Protections

The budget prohibits evictions for non-payment of rent through December 31, 2020, which is stronger than current federal protections. Landlords and tenants must cooperate and apply for rental assistance through the [Virginia Rent and Mortgage Relief Program \(RMRP\)](#) administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development. After January 1, 2021, the budget requires landlords and tenants to work together to access rent assistance, including through the RMRP, before proceeding with an eviction.

A full list of legislation signed by the Governor during the special session can be found [here](#).

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.



Like us on Facebook



Juli E. Briskman, Algonkian District Supervisor

Zachary Harris, Legislative Aide

Rey Cheatham-Banks, Chief of Staff

[Algonkian District Supervisor Page](#)

[Email Supervisor Briskman](#)

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[Email Rey Cheatham-Banks](#)

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