

# Loudoun County, Virginia

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Loudoun County Schedules COVID-19 Testing Events Jan. 18 & 21

Loudoun County has scheduled COVID-19 testing events **Tuesday**, **January 18 and Friday**, **January 21**, **2022**, at <u>Philip A. Bolen Memorial Park</u>, <u>42405 Claudia Drive</u>, <u>Leesburg</u> (Enter the park on Crosstrail Boulevard from Sycolin Road.) Testing is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. but may begin early to mitigate traffic impacts.

The testing events are free and open to all. There are no age or residency requirements. No prescriptions or appointments are necessary. A person does not have to exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 to be tested. A PCR test (nasal swab) will be administered, which tests for the novel coronavirus. No antibody or rapid tests will be offered. No COVID-19 vaccine will be available at these events.

## What to Expect

- Depending on demand, there may be a significant wait time in the drive-thru line.
- Entrance to the park may be restricted intermittently to limit traffic impacts on Sycolin Road. Queuing on Sycolin Road will not be allowed. If testing capacity is reached, the site will close for the day.
- To be notified regarding changes in site operations, opt in to receive text message updates in English (text LCCOVID19 to 888777) or Spanish (text LCCOVIDESP to 888777), or check the Loudoun County Government Facebook page or @LoudounCoGovt on Twitter.

### **Registration Form**

The required registration form can now be filled out and submitted online.

• Register online (English) | Español

The forms should be filled out and submitted online prior to the test. For anyone who cannot submit the forms online, paper forms will also be available at the testing site.

Submitting the form in advance is not an appointment or a guarantee for a test. Depending on demand, the site may close when it reaches capacity.

The form is required and asks for general information including name, date of birth, address, phone number. The information is kept private.

#### **Future Testing Events**

Loudoun County is scheduling twice-weekly testing events, on Tuesdays and Fridays, through January. To meet the demand for testing and to maximize capacity, the testing events held so far in January have been at the largest of the county's available facilities for testing, Philip A. Bolen Memorial Park in Leesburg. If demand decreases, the county may return to scheduling events at rotating facilities. Future events will be posted at <a href="loudoun.gov/covid19testing">loudoun.gov/covid19testing</a>.

#### When to Get Tested

Public health officials encourage anyone, regardless of vaccination status, who thinks they may have been exposed to COVID-19 to get tested as well as anyone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue and a new loss of taste or smell. Learn more about COVID-19 testing on the <a href="Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website">Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website</a>.

## **Other Testing Sites**

In addition to the COVID-19 testing events hosted by Loudoun County, there are other testing locations and providers in Loudoun and the region. Visit the <u>Virginia Department of Health's COVID-19 testing webpage</u> to find locations near you.

#### **COVID-19 Vaccine**

The Loudoun County Health Department encourages everyone age 5 and older who is not fully vaccinated to get a COVID-19 vaccination as soon as possible. In addition, anyone who is eligible is encouraged to get a booster dose. Vaccine is widely available from many providers in Loudoun, such as medical offices and pharmacies including, but not limited to, CVS, Giant Food, Harris Teeter, Safeway, Walgreens, Walmart and Wegmans. These locations have the benefit of being able to also provide flu vaccine at the same time, which is recommended by the Health Department. Visit vaccines.gov to find the vaccination site nearest to you.

To make an appointment at the county's vaccination site located at the Dulles Town Center, visit <u>loudoun.gov/covid19vaccine</u>.

#### **Protect Yourself and Others**

In addition to vaccination, to help curb the increase in COVID-19 cases that Loudoun County has been experiencing and to help slow the spread of the <u>Omicron variant</u> or other new COVID-19 variants, the Health Department recommends everyone:

- Wear a mask in indoor public settings.
- Stay 6 feet away from people who do not live in your household.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Stay home when sick.
- Avoid contact with sick people.

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• Know the <u>signs and symptoms of COVID-19</u> and remember to get tested if you're symptomatic, or if potentially exposed to COVID-19, regardless of your vaccination status.

Learn more about protecting yourself and your family on the <u>Virginia Department of Health</u> website.

### **More Information**

Anyone with questions about COVID-19, including the upcoming testing events, may call the Loudoun County Health Department's information line Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., excluding county holidays, at 703-737-8300; or send an email anytime to <a href="health@loudoun.gov">health@loudoun.gov</a>.