



Supervisor

Caleb A. Kershner

Catoctin District



Loudoun County
VIRGINIA

An April Update From Catoctin

Dear Catoctin residents,

As April comes to an end, I'm reminded of that proverb about how the days are long but the years are short. It seems like late spring in Catoctin always goes by in a hurry. We've finally left winter, and tax season, in our rearview mirror. Now many of us are looking forward to winding up this school year – which is getting tantalizingly close, especially for our graduating seniors.

In seasons like these, it can be helpful to stop at times and savor the moment. It's a good way to reset from a busy routine, take a much-needed break, and enjoy some of the wonderful opportunities that Loudoun has to offer. This is a great season to see the latest exhibits at the Loudoun History Museum, catch an equestrian event at Morven Park, or visit one of Loudoun's many local farms, some of which have been operating continuously for over a hundred years.



Image Credit: [Photo](#) from 2019 Loudoun Spring Farm Tour / [WTOP](#)

For this month's Loudoun history segment, I've chosen a story from our own Catoclin District that took place in the town of Hamilton. Eugene Scheel has once again done a top-notch job of researching Loudoun's past. His retelling connects [a century-old family business](#), the rise and fall of the [Washington and Old Dominion Railroad](#), and the [Berlin Airlift](#).

Let me tell you the story of the Loudoun County Milling Company and their Hamilton Station Mill.



Image Credit: [Photo](#) of the Hamilton Station Mill / Eugene Scheel

- The [Loudoun County Milling Company](#) is located in the town of Hamilton, near the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad. Their Hamilton Station Mill is one of the oldest mills in Virginia's Piedmont region, and it's one of the few that's still in operation. This mill has been operated continuously by the Rogers family [for more than a century](#).
- The family business saga began in 1900, when a then-55-year-old Samuel Edgar Rogers looked out on the state of local milling and decided he could do a better job. So he teamed up with a business partner, John Chamblin, and built his first mill, which was a combination gristmill and sawmill powered by a gasoline engine.
- Samuel soon realized that the Loudoun's rich farmlands offered a lucrative opportunity for any mills that were located near the railroad in the rich agricultural heartland of the Loudoun Valley. So he began acquiring other mills throughout the region. He bought the Hamilton mill in 1907 and had it enlarged. That year he also bought mills in Purcellville and Round Hill. All three mills were located near the railroad.
- In 1913, Samuel gained a mill, lost a mill, and formed a business. He bought a water-powered mill named Cissel Mill, located in Georgetown by the Potomac River. And he partnered with John Wilkins to form the Wilkins-Rogers firm. Sadly his first gas-powered mill left the story for good in that same year, when it caught fire and burned. But Eugene reports that its original site still plays a part in Hamilton life, since it is now part of the Hamilton Baptist Church's parking lot.
- This cluster of mills enabled Samuel to set prices for milling grain, mixing feed, and storing the bagged produce for resale. The three Loudoun mills used corrugated rollers to mill wheat flour, which produced a finer and whiter flour than their competitors' water-powered mills. Each milling complex also had pens to hold livestock before they were sold or for shipping to the Washington markets, which brought in additional revenue through stowage fees.
- Samuel passed away in 1921. Shortly afterwards, the Wilkins-Rogers firm bought out the Paeonian Springs mill and the Bluemont mill and grain elevator. With these acquisitions, the firm now owned every single mill next to the railroad west of Leesburg, a feat that was only slightly marred by the Paeonian Springs mill burning in 1929.



Image Credit: [Photo](#) of members of the Rogers family in front of the Hamilton Station Mill / Eugene Scheel

- Then the Great Depression came, and the Washington & Old Dominion Railroad gradually wore down. Throughout the 1930s, the railroad kept deferring maintenance on its tracks and rolling stock. A decade later, it abandoned its tracks west of Purcellville.
- Bit by bit, Wilkins-Rogers closed or sold most of its Loudoun mill holdings. But they kept the Hamilton mill running, and used it to mix and sell Grown-Big Hog Meal and Loudoun Supreme Feed for livestock and dairy cows—a valuable commodity, since dairying had been a staple of the Loudoun economy since the late 1910s.
- The mill also continued to produce its high-quality flour, which gave it a surprise role in the [Berlin Airlift](#). In June of 1948, the Soviet Union blockaded the occupied city of Berlin, cutting it off from any supplies from the US and Western Europe. President Truman responded by launching a massive airlift operation, using a veritable armada of aircraft to deliver critical supplies to the food- and oil-starved city. From June 1948 to September 1949, the Hamilton mill's flour formed part of the steady stream of US and Allied supplies that were flown into Berlin and kept its citizens alive.

That is the story of the [Hamilton Station Mill](#). It is a living piece of Hamilton's history, a small anchor that connects our present moment all the way back to 1907. We are fortunate to live in a county that is thick with stories and histories like this one. It reminds me of [part of a poem](#) from J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Fellowship of the Ring*:

The old that is strong does not wither,

Deep roots are not reached by the frost.

And that's the news from Catoctin. Please keep sending us your thoughts. We will keep posting regular updates for the Catoctin District on [my Facebook page](#), and will be adding more information and resources to [my webpage](#).

Sincerely,

Caleb Kershner

IN THIS ISSUE

- Review of FY 2024 Budget
- Broadband Update
- John G. Lewis Bridge Reopens
- Loudoun Together Summit
- VCE's New Crop Mapping Tool
- Energy & Environment Forum

CURRENT EVENTS

Your Tax Dollar at Work FY 2024 Proposed Budget

Loudoun County
VIRGINIA

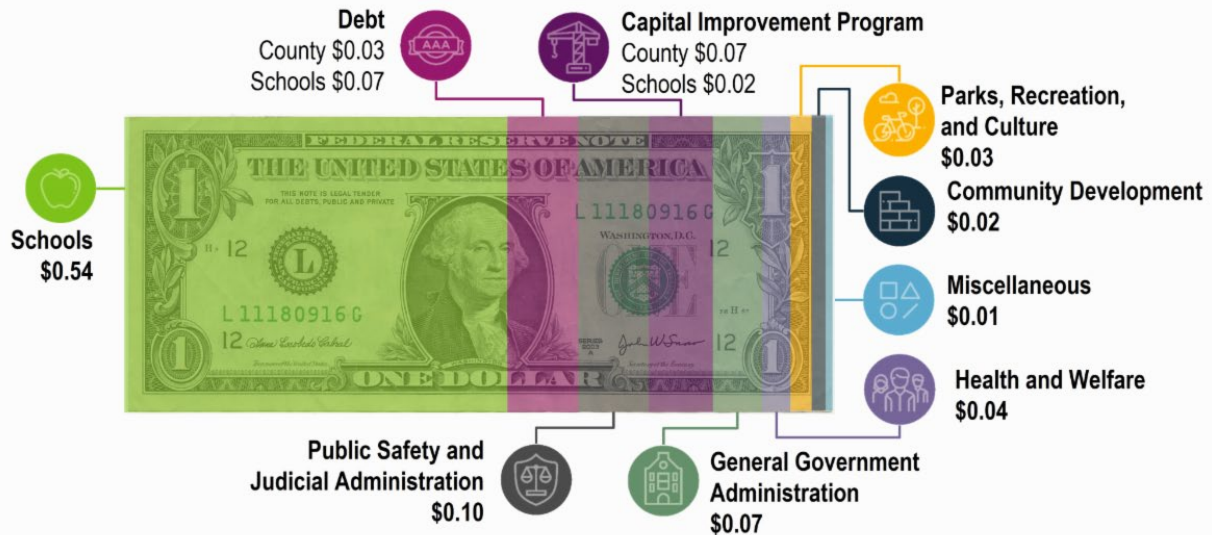


Image Credit: [Image](#) from Loudoun's Civic Alert / Loudoun County

A Review of Loudoun's FY 2024 Budget

This was a hard year for the county budget. Our process started out with a base budget that put us 4 pennies over the residential real property equalized rate. The major factor behind this higher starting point was the historic levels of inflation that have swamped our whole nation—with 6% annual inflation over the last 12 months. On top of that, the county had to cover some unavoidable expenses. A new fire station came online and needed to be staffed. And a recent study showed that the Sheriff's Office needed over 100 more deputies than it currently had; to help move that in the right direction, this year's budget added 36 new field deputies.

Without question, unbridled spending at the national level over the last several years has placed tremendous financial pressure on everyone. It has squeezed every resident with a sharply increased cost of living, and it has played havoc with our county's budgeting efforts.

However, even in the face of that inflationary pressure, the Board ought to have kept the residential tax rate lower. It's been frustrating to watch the average homeowner's tax burden rise year after year. At this point, the average homeowner's tax bill has gone up by about \$1,000 during this Board's tenure. We need to stop asking our residents to keep shouldering the mounting tax burden for an ever-expanding county government.

Going forward, I firmly believe that Loudoun's tax policy needs to change. Specifically, we must recoup and use more of the data center revenue that's available to us—lessening the burden on individual homeowners. There are some helpful opportunities here that would let us shift part of the county's tax burden off of our homeowners. As a step in the right direction, we should bring the personal property tax on computer equipment back up to its previous rate of \$4.20 per \$100 of assessed value.

We also need to see serious reform efforts in the Loudoun County Public School's budget. For a number of years, LCPS justified their requests for more and more funding by pointing to their growing enrollment levels. But last year and again this year, our public school system received multimillion-dollar funding increases from us, while their enrollment remained lower than its pre-COVID levels. Thankfully, we implemented a 60/40 school/county split for new local revenue during the 2023 FY budget process. That decision did help to slow down the overspending in our schools in the 2024 FY budget. Previously, school spending made up over 66% of the county's overall budget.

I continue to encourage LCPS to start doing a better job of managing its costs, including reducing the number of administrative positions and prioritizing their resources to fund their teachers in the classroom. I have no doubt that they can find savings and smart reallocations within their existing budget, and that they can do that without affecting or diminishing their teachers' salaries.

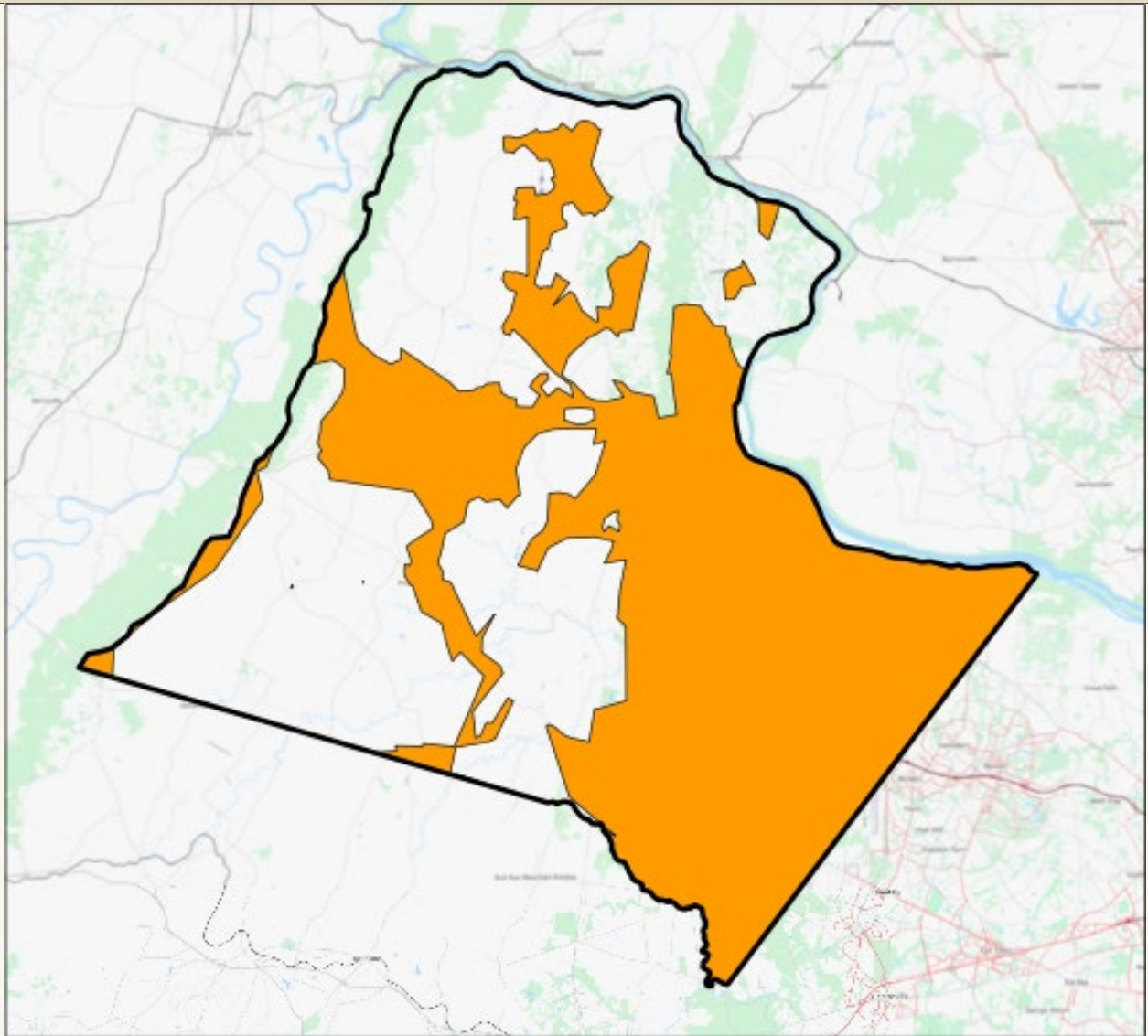


Image Credit: [Graphic](#) from 2021 article about the VATI grant proposal / All Points Broadband, Loudoun Times-Mirror

The Latest Broadband Update

I have an update for you on Loudoun's VATI broadband project. All Points has been making steady progress on the largest and messiest task: preparing the 10,000 utility poles that they'll need to carry the fiber. Their engineers are out in the field right now, surveying and assessing these poles. This process involves engineering work, designing where the new fiber would go, and then negotiating with the pole's owner and anyone who already has fiber or other cables attached to the pole.

As of now, All Points has worked through almost half of those 10,000 poles. That means they've processed more pole requests every month than Dominion usually

handles in an entire year. In order to keep up with that pace, they've already had to rework some of Dominion's systems, and even rebuild some of their own processes.

The project is on track to be completed by its July 2024 deadline. However, there has been a significant change to All Points' plans, which will affect how soon the first homes will get service.

All Points originally planned to design one 10- or 20-mile section of the project at a time and then call in their construction vendors to build that section. That way they would have gotten broadband access to the homes in those first sections earlier, with the final homes being connected by July 2024. It also would have gotten All Points paid earlier, since they don't get reimbursed until they hit their project milestones.

What All Points told us this quarter, however, is that the construction vendors want the entire project designed and permitted up front. Then they will bring in a large number of work crews and build 50 to 70 miles a month until they've finished everything.

The good news is that this will make the fiber construction go 2 to 3 times faster than All Points had originally thought. The bad news is that it prevents those first homes from getting connected until much later in the process. The current best estimate from All Points is that the first homes might get connected in 2023 Q4 at the earliest.

Finally, All Points says they are deeply impressed by the level of response they've gotten to this project. Close to 4,000 people have already pre-registered on their website, which is a 20% jump from November 2022.

[Sign Up Here](#)



Image Credit: [Photo](#) of the renovated John G. Lewis Memorial Bridge / VDOT

John G. Lewis Memorial Bridge Has Reopened

On December 27, VDOT reopened the historic John G. Lewis Memorial Bridge that carries Featherbed Lane over Catoctin Creek. Closed in January 2021 for some much-needed work, the bridge had its existing truss installed above a new steel beam and timber deck bridge. Work crews also added a new pier and made sure to upgrade the railings.

In addition to being a needed part of our road system (60 vehicles were using it per day before the renovation), this bridge also comes with a fun bit of backstory. It was built in 1899—not in its current location, but on the Leesburg & Alexandria Turnpike (which is now Route 7) over Goose Creek. It was built there to replace a bridge that had been wiped out by flooding. Then in 1932, the bridge was dismantled and moved to its current location at Featherbed Lane, where it has remained to this day.

In any event, we were finally able to declare the John G. Lewis Memorial Bridge rehabilitated! There was some minor work done on the bridge over the next few weeks, but those tasks had minimal impact on traffic across the bridge, and they have been wrapped up at this point.

[Read More](#)



Image Credit: [Photo](#) of Salamander Resort & Spa / Loudoun Together Summit

Middleburg Hosts Loudoun Together Summit

The Town of Middleburg [held the Loudoun Together Summit](#) at the Salamander Resort and Spa on April 11. It brought together a variety of groups that are focused on the county's rural land use issues, including Loudoun's town mayors, the Piedmont Environmental Council, and a number of tourism and hospitality businesses.

The goal of this summit was to have a discussion that included a variety of viewpoints and to move toward some potential answers. It engaged stakeholders from very different perspectives, including Mike Scheffel, who is a land expert for Montgomery County, Maryland, and explained how his county has tried to preserve its rural land without damaging the land equity of farmers and other landowners.

Loudoun Now has published an article on the summit, which goes into detail about some of the challenges that these stakeholders wrestled with and the ideas that they considered. You can read their full article [here](#).

[Read Article](#)

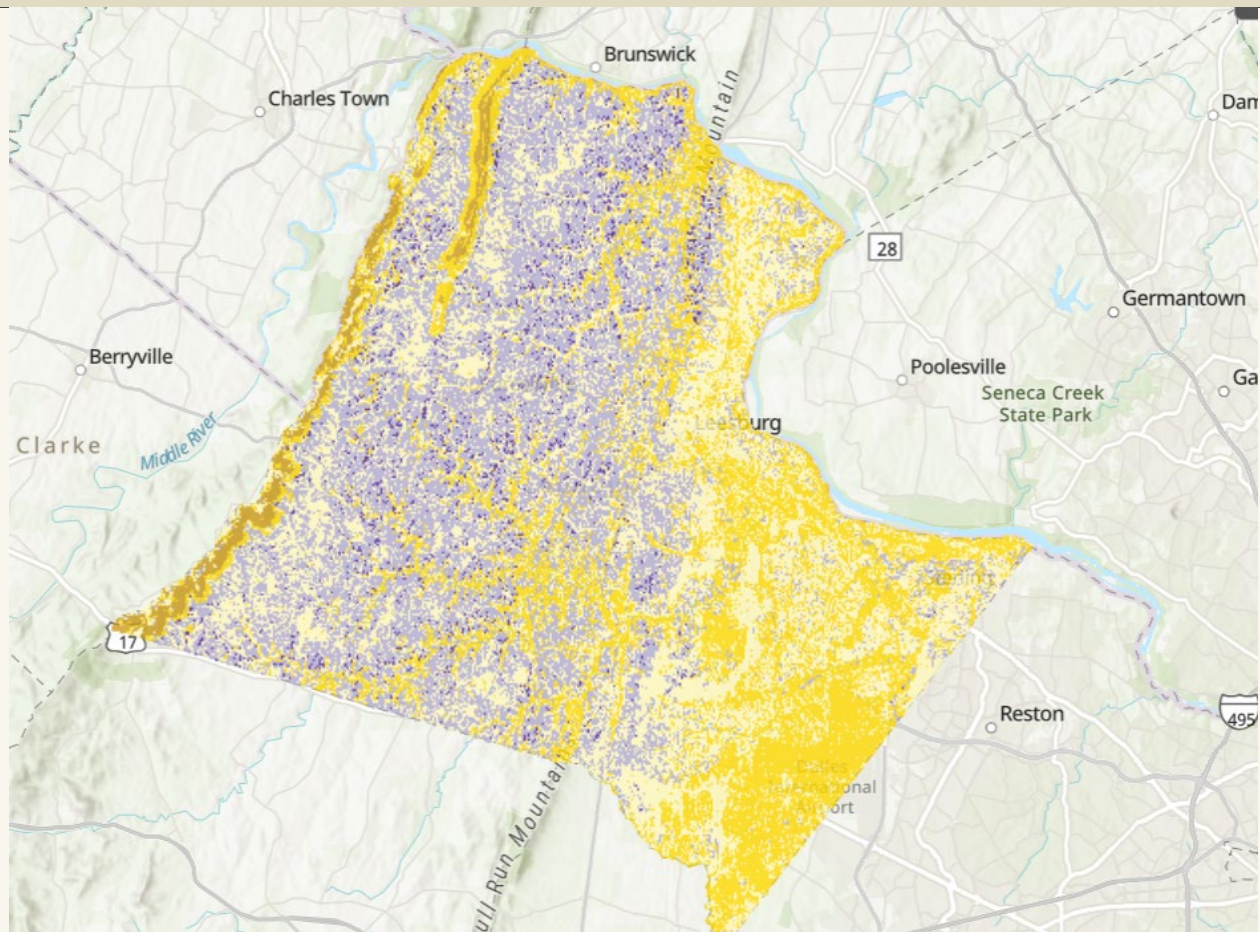


Image Credit: [Screenshot](#) from VCE's new crop mapping tool / VCE, Loudoun County Government

VCE Releases New Crop Mapping Tool

The Virginia Cooperative Extension's Loudoun office has released a new Crops Suitability Tool. This interactive map uses soil type data, slope orientation, and slope percentages to make an informed analysis of which crops will grow best in different parts of Loudoun County.

The tool was designed to help farmers and real estate agents figure out the agricultural possibilities for a given plot of land before they buy it or start planting a crop. It is a starting point, not a final analysis. It doesn't include weather conditions, nor information about local weeds, insects, or crop diseases. But it does give a good initial estimate of how suitable that plot of land would be for a variety of crops, ranging from fruit and vegetables to hay and hemp.

[Go to Mapping Tool](#)

Free &
Open to
Everyone

Engage with Us!

Energy and Environment Forum

hosted by the Loudoun County Environmental Commission

Thursday May 11, 2023

5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Academies of Loudoun

42075 Loudoun Academy Drive, Leesburg



Image Credit: Image from promotional flyer for the forum / Loudoun County Environmental Commission

Energy and Environment Forum – May 11

The [Loudoun County Environmental Commission](#) is hosting its first annual Energy and Environment Forum on Thursday, May 11, from 5:30 to 8:00 PM. They will hold the Forum at the Academies of Loudoun, 42075 Loudoun Academy Drive, in Leesburg.

The forum aims to give the public an opportunity to learn more about topics like the county's energy strategy, solar energy ordinances, and tree protection, and then to provide feedback on what the county's role should be in energy and environmental sustainability. The public comments from this forum will be shared with the Board of Supervisors at the Environmental Commission's annual update to the Board.

[Read More](#)

MORVEN PARK'S UPCOMING EVENTS



Image Credit: [Image](#) from Morven Park's website / Morven Park (trimmed from original)

Morven Park's May Events

[Open Cross-Country Schooling Day](#)

When: Tuesday, May 2, from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Where: Morven Park International Equestrian Center

Morven Park is hosting an open cross-country schooling day on its internationally recognized courses. This is a chance for riders to try their hand at the Beginner Novice-Preliminary courses just as they were set up for the Loudoun Hunt Pony Club Horse Trials.

For more details about the event and cost, check out their [registration page](#). You can also send your questions to hmcsween@morvenpark.org.

[Schooling Days in the Park: Dressage Arenas](#)

When: Wednesday, May 3, at 8:00 AM – Friday, May 5, at 4:00 PM

Where: Attwood Arena

For a limited time, Morven Park is opening their outdoor Attwood Arena (Arena 2) for schooling opportunities. Riders who want to put in some time in the dressage saddle can make a reservation for one of these competition dressage rings.

Each reservation is for a private 45-minute session with a 20 x 60 dressage arena. Those reservations are available every 45 minutes from 8 AM to 4 PM. You can register for that [here](#), and send any questions to EQOffice@morvenpark.org.

Ride to End ALZ Nation's Capital

When: Sunday, May 7, from 6:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Where: Biking route that starts and ends at Morven Park

The Ride to End ALZ Nation's Capital is a cycling event for a range of riders, whether you're a novice cyclist or avid enthusiast. Participants sign up for a route that's between 25 and 100 miles and then cycle through it, helping to raise money for new research that's trying to change the trajectory of Alzheimer's disease.

The organizers have posted a [full guide to the event](#). You can also learn more about the details, sign up to ride, or donate on a cycling teams' behalf at their [official website](#).

PVDA Dressage Show

When: Saturday, May 13, at 8:00 AM – Sunday, May 14, at 4:00 PM

Where: Morven Park International Equestrian Center

The [Potomac Valley Dressage Association](#) is bringing their dressage show to Morven Park once again. The Association is the second-oldest dressage club in the US, and they are a member organization of the United States Dressage Federation (USDF). They have a few more details about this specific event on their [show omnibus page](#), along with contact information for the show manager. If you'd like to learn more about the Association itself, consider checking out their [seasonal newsletter archive](#).

VADA/NOVA Midweek May Meet

When: Wednesday, May 17, from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Where: Morven Park International Equestrian Center

The [Virginia Dressage Association Northern Virginia Chapter](#) is coming to Morven Park for this midweek meet. The Association will be updating [their event page](#) with

more details as they get closer to May 17. They don't appear to require registration for this event, and they've provided the show manager's and stable manager's contact information [here](#).

Morven Park Summer Show Series

When: Saturday, May 20 – Sunday, May 21

Where: Morven Park International Equestrian Center

Morven Park is excited to offer another year of the [Morven Park Summer Show Series](#). This year they've expanded this event to offer 2 days of showing in both the hunter and jumper rings. Each show is VHSA and TIP rated, and spectators are welcome.

The shows will be held in the outdoor arenas that feature Attwood Equestrian Surfaces Eurotek footing. Each one will feature an Open Hunter Derby, a Child/Adult Amateur Hunter Derby, and a 2' Hunter Derby limited to juniors and amateurs. And once again, Morven Park has partnered with [Erin Gilmore Photography](#) to be the official photographer for this series.

If you have questions about the event, please feel free to reach out to EgOffice@MorvenPark.org. And if you know someone who'd be interested in sponsoring the Summer Show Series, Morven Park would love to hear from them at StrategicPartnerships@MorvenPark.org.

Virginia Foxhound Show

When: Saturday, May 27, at 7:00 AM – Sunday, May 28, at 1:00 PM

The [Virginia Foxhound Club](#) is bringing their 75th Annual foxhound show to Morven Park on the last weekend in May. This event is open to exhibitors and spectators alike. It does not include food, so attendees are encouraged to bring along a picnic lunch.

The club has posted a bevy of additional details about tickets, schedules, trophy shining rules (I didn't make that up), and more at their [event page](#).

[View Calendar](#)

LOVETTSVILLE NEWS AND EVENTS



Image Credit: [Town logo](#) from Lovettsville's website / Lovettsville Town Government

Lovettsville's Latest News & Events

Here are some of the recent highlights and events in the [Town of Lovettsville](#):

Arbor Day Ceremony at Lovettsville Elementary

To maintain their [Tree City USA](#) designation, the Town Council adopted a formal proclamation that made this past Friday, April 28, Arbor Day in the Town of Lovettsville. Then on Friday they joined Lovettsville Elementary School for an Arbor Day Ceremony, and as part of the event, Ms. Lindsey Long of the Virginia Department of Forestry spent time working with Lovettsville Elementary students and staff to plant some dogwood trees.

Mayfest 2023 is Coming

The town of Lovettsville is getting ready for [Mayfest 2023](#)! This year's Mayfest will be held at the Town Green on May 27 from 8 AM to 6 PM. It will include plenty of backyard, Olympic-style friendly competition, with teams of 6 to 8 participants competing across 8 different events to see who will take home the champion's title. There will also be food vendors, pony rides, face painting, balloon animals, and a Kids Fun Zone.

The Mayfest event still has spots available for vendors and sponsors. If you're interested, please email the organizers at mayfest@lovettsvilleva.org.

MAJOR ROAD PROJECTS

ROUTE 15



The Route 15 North Widening Project

Summary of the Project

The Route 15 North Widening project involves expanding Route 15 from two to four lanes between Battlefield Parkway and Montresor Road. This will involve a slew of road design, land acquisition, and construction tasks, all while following the Journey Through Hallowed Ground guidelines wherever possible.

The widening project will include:

- A signalized Continuous Green "T" (CGT) intersection at North King Street to allow through traffic to continue north on Route 15 without stopping,
- An updated signalized intersection at Whites Ferry Road,
- A two-lane hybrid roundabout at Montresor Road,
- A realigned section of Limestone School Road to connect with the Montresor Road roundabout,
- A shared use path on the west side of Route 15 from Tuscarora High School to Montresor Road, and
- A shared use path along the entire length of Whites Ferry Road.

Latest Update

The design team resubmitted the Phase I 100% design plans to Building and Development, VDOT, and the Town of Leesburg back on January 23. Comments came back from Building and Development on February 13, and from VDOT and Leesburg on March 2. The Big Springs Floodplain Study and Floodplain Alteration

were resubmitted to Building and Development on March 3. The design team is also currently developing the Phase II 90% plans.

The stage 1 bridge report for the Limestone Branch bridge was submitted to VDOT on February 2, and the Limestone Branch Floodplain Alteration was submitted to Building and Development on March 8. A preliminary design was prepared for the Whites Ferry Road shared use path, and design alternatives are being reviewed to account for karst features.

Since the design team still needs to close out plan review comments for the Phase I design plans, that design phase's completion date has been extended from winter 2023 to spring 2023.

[See Project Website](#)

OTHER KEY ROAD PROJECTS

The latest on County and VDOT projects that affect Catoclin residents

[Crosstrail Boulevard - Segment B](#)

Summary of the Project

The design and construction from Kincaid Boulevard to Russell Branch Parkway. A contract award for construction of this proffer item was approved at the Board Business Meeting on December 3, 2019.

Latest Update

As I reported last time, this segment of the road was opened to the public in August. It looks like the punchlist of final items has also been wrapped up. So we can declare this project finished!

[Crosstrail Boulevard - Segment C](#)

Summary of the Project

This project provides for the planning, design, ROW acquisition, and the construction of a four lane median divided road as a Major Collector between Sycolin Road and the Dulles Greenway on a 120 ft. wide ROW. The project also includes shared use paths on both sides of Crosstrail Boulevard and a bridge over Sycolin Creek.

Latest Update

As noted last time, the project scope was modified to include a connection from Compass Creek Parkway to Crosstrail Boulevard. That has forced the project to extend its completion date to spring 2023.

The design team submitted its updated 100% design plans (which now include that additional road connection) and addressed comments on it from Building and Development and VDOT. They also submitted their plats to Building and Development.

Evergreen Mill Road Widening – Town of Leesburg

Summary of the Project

This project adds two lanes to the two existing lanes on Evergreen Mill Road from South King Street to the eastern entrance of Heritage High School. This project is managed by the Town of Leesburg.

Latest Update

As I reported in an earlier newsletter, this project's design scope had to be modified to include a new road entrance and frontage improvements for part of Evergreen Mill Road. That delayed the submission of the 90% plans.

More recently, the 90% design plan review was completed, and the design team is working to develop the 100% design plan set. Based on the comments received, however, more design work will be needed for two of the ponds.

Route 7 Improvements, Phase 3

Summary of the Project

This project provides for the planning, design, Right-of-Way acquisition, and construction to widen Route 7 eastbound from two lanes to three lanes between Route 9 and the Dulles Greenway (267), and Westbound from two lanes to three lanes from South King Street to West Market Street. It includes reconstructing/widening the following bridges: West Market Street over Route 7, Dry Mill Road over West Market Street, Children's Center Road over Route 7, W&OD Trail over Route 7, and Route 7 over Route 15.

DTCI will work with VDOT to develop a project agreement, where VDOT will administer a project to lengthen the acceleration lane on westbound Route 7 east of the Route 9 interchange. Concurrently, Loudoun County will perform investigations and develop a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document for the Route 7 widening planned between Route 9 and the Dulles Greenway.

Latest Update

VDOT has reviewed and given its comments on the updated design RFP. County staff met with VDOT back on March 6 to discuss those comments. DTCI and Finance and Budget will be working with VDOT to finalize the design RFP, and then to schedule an advertisement date for it.

Route 7 & Route 287

Summary of the Project

This project provides for the planning, design, and construction of improvements for the Route 7 and Berlin Turnpike (Route 287) interchange. The project is funded using local tax funding and VDOT Smart Scale funding.

Latest Update

The design team met with VDOT on February 10, to discuss possible options for resolving the Town of Purcellville's remaining comment on the 60% plan review. After that meeting, the design team sought further clarification from Town staff on their comment.

In this next quarter, the design team will keep working with Purcellville to close out the 60% plan comment and begin developing an item to get the Board's endorsement of the project's location and its major design elements.

Route 7 & Route 690

Summary of the Project

This project funds the design, right-of-way acquisition and construction of an interchange at Route 7 and Route 690 in Purcellville.

Latest Update

On December 13, the Purcellville Town Council remanded the plat review for the Catoctin Meadows HOA acquisition to the town's Planning Commission. A public information meeting was held on January 25, where the project team outlined the proposed interchange design and presented the project development history.

The design team also attended the town Planning Commission meetings on March 2 and 16. They held another meeting on March 24 with the Catoctin Meadows HOA to further discuss the land acquisition proposed for the project. In the midst of those meetings, relocation of the CenturyLink fiber lines has continued.

In the next quarter, the project team will continue to work with the town and with the Catoctin Meadows HOA to obtain plat approval and to acquire the land rights needed for this project.

John G. Lewis Memorial (Featherbed Lane) Bridge over Catoctin Creek

Summary of the Project

The purpose of this project is to develop conceptual bridge alternatives to address the existing historic truss bridge. VDOT presented three options to the State Department of Historic Resources. The DHS chose option 2A: building a new structure from the deck down, allowing the trusses to remain as ornamental.

John G. Lewis Memorial Bridge (Route 673 - Featherbed Lane) over Catoctin Creek is a single span steel pin connected Pratt through truss with a timber deck and asphalt overlay, supported on stringers and floor beams. The bridge was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on June 25, 1974. It is 157 feet long, has an overall width of about 14 feet and clear roadway width of 11.16 feet. It carries one alternating traffic lane. The bridge was originally erected in 1889 on the Leesburg &

Alexandria Turnpike (Route 7) over Goose Creek, to replace a bridge destroyed by flooding. In 1932 the bridge was dismantled and moved to its current location. The bridge was posted 15 tons in 2004 and reduced to 3 tons in 2013 due to insufficient capacity. The existing bridge has an average traffic count of 57 vehicles per day with daily truck traffic less than 3 trucks.

Latest Update

I'm pleased to report that the John G. Lewis Memorial Bridge [reopened for traffic](#) on Tuesday, December 27. After a lot of hard work - and some creative problem-solving when the new steel girders got delayed by post-pandemic supply chain issues - the bridge has been properly rehabilitated. This project is now complete.

Route 9 & Route 287 Roundabout

Summary of the Project

This project includes design and construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Charles Town Pike (Route 9) and Berlin Turnpike (Route 287).

Latest Update

This project is in its land acquisition phase. Staff held follow-up meetings with the owners of six outstanding parcels to finalize the terms for acquiring that land. They are negotiating with a seventh property owner, and as part of that negotiation, they have performed an additional topographic survey. (The project needs 12 land acquisitions in total, so there are 7 in process and 5 still to go.)

Route 15 - Route 15 Interchange at Edwards Ferry/Fort Evans Road

Summary of the Project

This project includes the design and construction of grade separated interchanges at Route 15/Edwards Ferry Road and Route 15/Fort Evans Road.

Latest Update

On November 3, a meeting was held to discuss ITS, lighting, landscaping, and aesthetics. There was another meeting on January 11 with the town's preservation planner to discuss the same topics, and an FI meeting is expected to be held in spring 2023.

Town of Lovettsville Broadway Streetscape, Phase 2A

Summary of the Project

This project provides for the design, ROW, and construction of sidewalk improvements along Broadway Street from Park Place to Light Street. This project is managed by the Town of Lovettsville.

Latest Update

The design consultant finished the 60% design milestone and submitted those plans to VDOT and the town for review on December 22. Comments on the plans came back by January 27. With the current 60% design effort, VDOT gave the green light to the town and its consultant to start property rights acquisition as of February 22.

From here, the design consultant will be refining the site plan and working towards a 90% design plan, which they aim to submit to VDOT by June 30. The town's consultant will help the town start acquiring the right-of-way and necessary easements. A Town Hall open house will also be planned to update the council and residents on the project's latest status.

Town of Lovettsville, Church Street & Pennsylvania Avenue Sidewalk Improvements

Summary of the Project

This project provides for improvements to the sidewalk at South Church Street and East Pennsylvania Avenue. In addition to sidewalks, improvements include roadway widening, storm water management, and street lights.

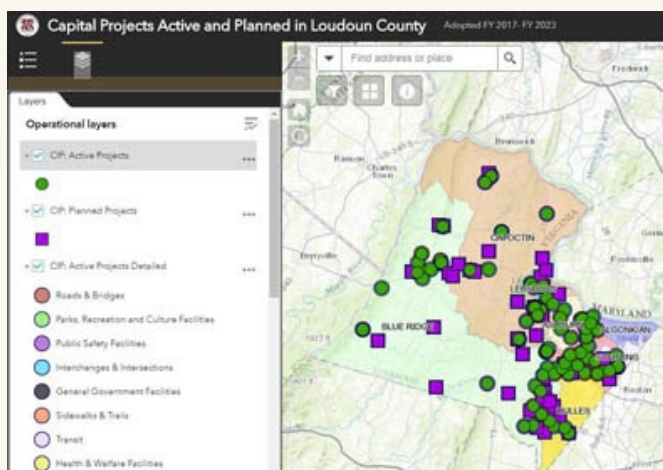
This project is managed by the Town of Lovettsville.

Latest Update

The approved site plan was submitted to Loudoun County and VDOT for permits, and they have both approved the plan for construction.

The town will work to secure a qualified general contractor, and construction should begin sometime this spring. Several contractors have expressed interest in taking on this construction project. The town is exploring the use of a job order contract (JOC) to speed up the procurement process and get things started as soon as possible.

ROAD RESOURCES



Loudoun's Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)

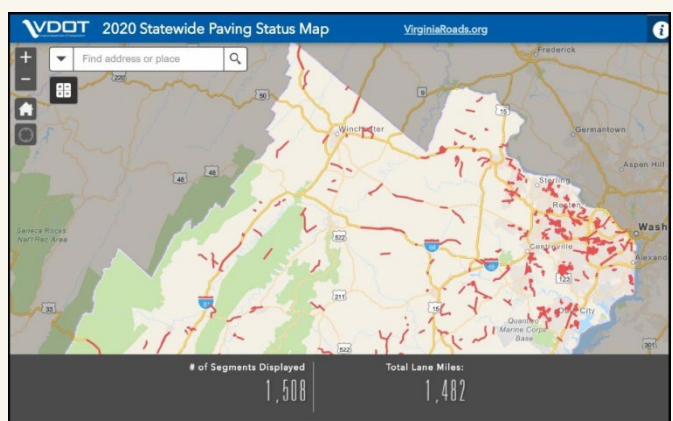
Use the county's interactive map to track capital improvement projects in Loudoun. It will show you active projects (currently funded) and planned projects (part of a later budget plan).

[View the Map](#)

VDOT's Road Paving Projects

Use VDOT's interactive map to track the status of all road paving projects in Loudoun. The map includes roads that are getting all types of treatments, including plant mix, latex, and slurry.

[View the Map](#)



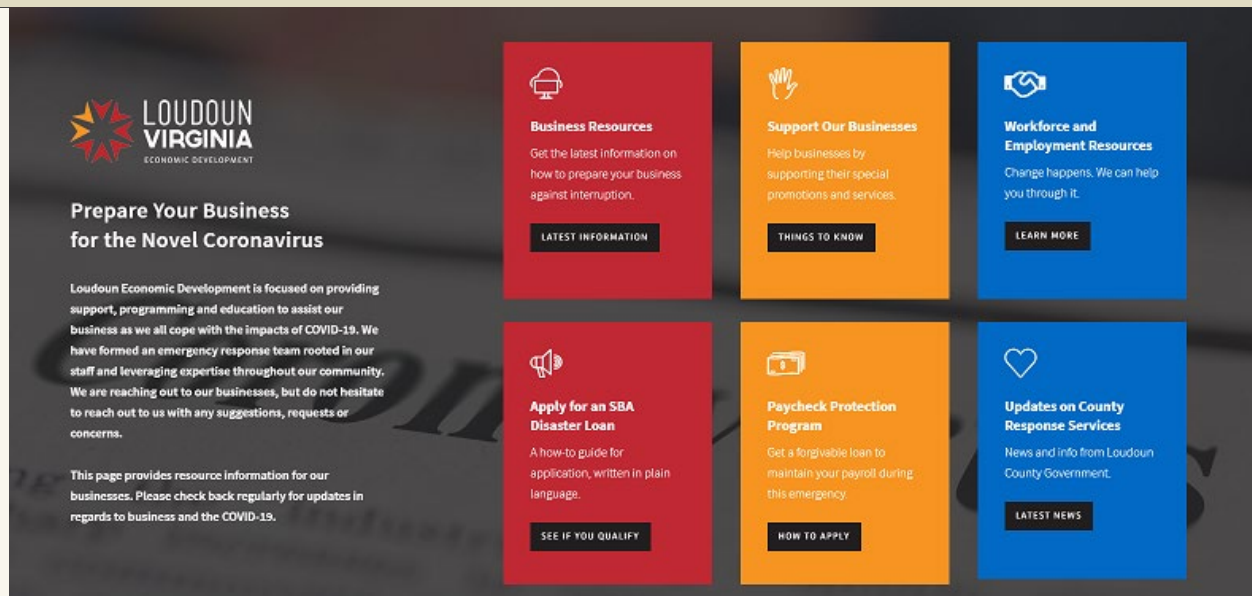
BUSINESS RESOURCES



The Official Guide To Starting Your Rural Business In Loudoun

Are you thinking of starting a rural business in Loudoun County? Our Department of Economic Development has put together this guide just for you. It gives an overview of important information for rural businesses, from farm and breweries to restaurants and bed & breakfasts, and helps you figure out if your specific use is permitted on your property.

[Read More](#)



Guides & Resources

Whether you're anticipating interruptions in your supply chain and/or customer sales, there are resources that can help bolster your business. Learn more about financing, education and training opportunities, and what data centers are doing to fuel digital tools.

Here are the top online resources offered by the Department of Economic Development:

COVID-19 Resources

- [Join The Take Loudoun Home Campaign](#)
- [Workforce Resources for Businesses](#)
- [Workforce Resources for Employees & Job Seekers](#)

General Business Resources

- [Rural Business Educational Resources](#)
- [Financing and Loans](#)
- [Business Training & Education](#)
- [Digital Business Resources](#)

OTHER COUNTY RESOURCES



Loudoun Express Request

Loudoun Express Request, or "LEX" for Short

Loudoun Express Request lets you contact county staff about a wide spectrum of issues, even if you're not sure which department to ask. You can use LEX to ask about internet service, property use, environmental health, and much more. Just enter your question or concern, and LEX will contact the appropriate county staff.

[Ask a Question](#)

LOUDOUN CARES

VOLUNTEER CENTER



Volunteer with Loudoun Cares

It's always a good time to think about volunteering. Check out volunteer opportunities with Loudoun Cares Volunteer Center. The Volunteer Center is a one-stop resource that connects Loudoun nonprofits with people who are looking for ways to volunteer in the community.

[Volunteer Today](#)

Catoctin District | 1 Harrison St. SE, Leesburg, VA 20175

Sent by caleb.kershner@loudoun.gov in collaboration with

