



**NEWSFLASH**

# Inside Sterling

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

Loudoun County  
VIRGINIA



## COVID-19 UPDATES ~OCTOBER 28, 2020~

### Updates from the Office of Governor Ralph Northam



**Governor Northam Invites Small Businesses and Nonprofits to Apply for Up to \$100,000 from Rebuild VA Grant Fund**

[Read the Full Press Release](#)

**Governor Northam Allocates CARES Act Dollars to Help Virginia Institutions of Higher Learning**

[Read the Full Press Release](#)

**Early Voting Ends on Saturday**

Early voting in Loudoun will conclude this Saturday (October 31). The closest early voting site for Sterling district residents is the Loudoun County Government satellite office located at 21641 Ridgetop Circle in Sterling. You can vote this week during the following times at this location:



- Wednesday, Friday - 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday - Noon to 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday - 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

If you plan on voting on Election Day (Tuesday November 3) you can look up your polling place [here](#) by entering your address.

## Loudoun County Cold Weather Shelter Opens November 15

**LOUDOUN COUNTY  
COLD WEATHER SHELTER**

**November 15, 2020-  
March 31, 2021**

**[loudoun.gov/CoC](http://loudoun.gov/CoC)**

The Loudoun County Cold Weather Shelter will open Sunday, November 15, 2020 through March 31, 2021 for adults in the community who are experiencing a housing crisis resulting in homelessness.

The Cold Weather Shelter will be located at the Loudoun Homeless Services Center,

19520 Meadowview Court in Leesburg.

The county will provide free transportation to the shelter with shuttle buses departing nightly at the times and locations below. Personal bags and belongings must be limited and no bicycles will be allowed. Face coverings, temperature checks and COVID-19 symptom screenings will be required to board the bus.

- 5:00 p.m. – Williams Watters House, 22365 Enterprise Street, Sterling (near Loudoun County Transit Local Bus Route 82 bus stop)
- 6:00 p.m. – Douglass Community Center, 405 East Market Street, Leesburg

[Get More Information](#)

## DryHome to Donate New Roof for the Holidays

DryHome Roofing is seeking nominations for a struggling family or nonprofit in need of a new roof.

This year will be the 19th year that DryHome owner, Steve Gotschi, sponsors the holiday giveaway to give back to the community.

Nominations will be accepted during November and the winner will be selected in early December.

To submit a nomination, go to [dryhome.com](http://dryhome.com) and click on the nomination form or send an email to [info@dryhome.com](mailto:info@dryhome.com). Nominators should include their name and phone number as well as nominee's name, address, phone and reason why they are being nominated.



## How to Apply for Limited Rent Assistance from Loudoun County



Loudoun County government has created an instructional video for how to apply for limited rent assistance from Loudoun County, available in both English and Spanish.

The limited rent assistance program is for Loudoun

County households economically impacted by COVID-19. Applicants must submit an online application form along with eligibility documentation, such as a current lease and paperwork that shows a job loss or reduced income due to COVID-19. The online application system allows applicants to use a computer, tablet or mobile phone to complete their application, including uploading all eligibility documentation.

Learn more about the program at [loudoun.gov/lra](https://loudoun.gov/lra) and watch the 'How to Apply' video for a detailed tour of the website and online application:

- [English video](#)
- [Spanish video](#)

## Loudoun County Health Guidance for a Safe Halloween

Loudoun County officials recommend that residents do not engage in traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating this Halloween or other activities that risk transmission of COVID-19.

"We all have a role in making Halloween as safe as possible this year by taking precautions that limit the spread of COVID-19 in our community," said Loudoun County Health Director Dr. David Goodfriend. "We encourage parents and anyone planning to participate in Halloween-related events to take actions to protect themselves, their children and others from the virus that causes this disease."

Halloween activities that are considered high-risk and are not recommended include:

- Traditional trick-or-treating where treats are handed to children who go door to door.
- Trick-or-treating at houses where individuals are not wearing a face covering and where 6 feet of physical distance is not maintained between individuals.



- Trunk-or-treating where treats are handed out from trunks of cars lined up in large parking lots.
- Events that involve large gatherings, such as crowded costume parties held indoors and any events where social distancing is difficult to maintain.
- Indoor haunted houses where people may be crowded together and screaming.

For those who are planning to participate in Halloween events, officials urge these precautions:

- Stay home and away from others when sick.
- Stay at least 6 feet from others at all times.
- Wash your hands before and during trick-or-treating or handing out candy. Use hand sanitizer when soap and water aren't available.
- Wear a cloth face covering. Halloween masks may not fit snugly against the face and may not cover the nose and mouth. Halloween masks with gaps and holes do not protect against inhaling respiratory droplets from other people. Wearing a cloth face covering under a Halloween mask may make it hard to breathe and is not recommended.
- If you choose to offer candy, hand out candy outside and from a distance. Consider setting up a table and placing individually-wrapped treats so that multiple people do not have to reach into the same bowl. For trunk-or-treating, create distance between cars by parking in every other space.

In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends staying home and away from others when sick. Anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and has not met the criteria for when it is safe to be around others, has COVID-19 symptoms or who has been in recent contact with someone with the disease should not participate in Halloween activities this year.

The Health Department considers haunted houses to be particularly risky for spreading COVID-19 because they typically involve people screaming, which is known to increase the production of respiratory droplets. Haunted houses that choose to operate must strictly follow Phase 3 Guidelines for Entertainment and Public Amusement settings (PDF).

For more detailed information, including suggestions for low-risk Halloween activities for families, visit [here](#).

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**Free Medicare Open Enrollment Assistance**



## Medicare Open Enrollment

October 15 - December 7

### We can help find:

- Better coverage
- Lower copays
- Lower plan premiums



Need help during Medicare Open Enrollment? The Loudoun County Area Agency on Aging VICAP counselors are here to help (virtually)! Agency staff trained in the Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program will work with you to help you find better coverage with lower premiums and copays.

**Open enrollment runs from October 15 to December 7, 2020.**

The deadline to submit your Part D worksheet to VICAP counselors is November 8. Part D worksheets are available at Loudoun County senior centers, online at [loudoun.gov/aaa](http://loudoun.gov/aaa) or by calling [703-737-8036](tel:703-737-8036).

## Loudoun County Announces Transit System Adjustments Beginning November 2

Loudoun County Transit will modify Commuter Bus and Metro Connection Bus services beginning Monday, November 2, 2020.

Due to changes in passenger demands, the number of trips on some existing routes will be reduced, while new Commuter Bus routes will be added to include stops at Dulles South (Stone Ridge II) and East Gate Park and Ride lots.

Over the coming weeks, Loudoun County Transit will continue to monitor ridership and services for possible additional changes. Details on service changes as well as current schedules may be found at [loudoun.gov/buschanges](http://loudoun.gov/buschanges).

### Commuter & Metro Connection Bus Routes Service Changes



[loudoun.gov/buschanges](http://loudoun.gov/buschanges)

[Get Details on the Service Adjustments](#)

## Toys for Tots 2020



The 2020 Loudoun County Toys for Tots season began on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Due to the pandemic, the Loudoun County Toys for Tots has come up with a plan for the 2020 season that would make it safe for all involved and still provide toys to children in need.

This year it is not possible to have groups of volunteers working together in the warehouse and the Loudoun County fire stations, which have been the largest public toy drop-off locations, are currently restrict access to on-duty personnel only.

In light of the above, the program will be conducted as reflected below.

- Loudoun County Toys for Tots has partnered with four local non-profit organizations (Help for Others, LINK, Mobile Hope and The Salvation Army).
- Individual families and other non-profit organizations requesting toys are provided information on how to register with one of these four partnering organizations.
- Once registration is completed, each of the four partnering organizations will provide Loudoun County Toys for Tots with the total number of children signed up with them.
- Loudoun County Toys for Tots will then order the toys on line, and/or work directly with local stores, and have the toys shipped directly to each of the four partnering organizations, and/or have the toy orders ready for pick-up by the organizations at one of the local stores.
- Loudoun County Toys for Tots representatives will be present to check the toy orders when they are received or ready for pick-up to confirm they are correct.
- Each of the four partnering organizations will then distribute the toys to the families on their scheduled distribution dates.

In order to allow enough time to order and have the toys shipped out, it would be ideal for the donations to be received by mid-November 2020. Organizations/businesses collecting \$3,000 or more should email [Loudoun.VA@ToysforTots.org](mailto:Loudoun.VA@ToysforTots.org) and if they wish, a Marine in Dress Blues and Santa Claus will visit their location to accept the donation. A W-9 form will be provided to businesses donating by corporate check.

### **To Donate Online**

Visit the [Loudoun County Toys for Tots](https://www.loudountoysfortots.org) website and click on the "Donate Local" red button on the top right of the home page.

### **To Donate by Check**

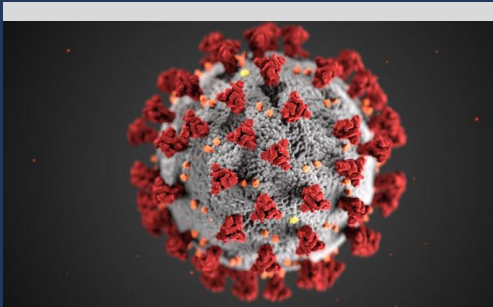
Make check payable to "Toys for Tots" and either mail to:

Toys for Tots  
c/o Loudoun County Marine Corps League  
P.O. Box 162  
Purcellville, VA 20134

Or drop off at:

- Reception in the Town Hall main lobby, located at 25 West Market Street, Leesburg VA
- Ida Lee Park Recreation Center, 60 Ida Lee Drive, NW, Leesburg VA
- Leesburg Executive Airport, 1001 Sycolin Road, Leesburg VA

## **Stay Informed!**



The county continues to encourage everyone in the

**LOUDOUN  
COUNTY**  
—  —  
**VIRGINIA**

Loudoun County encourages residents to stay informed about COVID-19



community to take steps to limit the spread of COVID-19, which include:

- Wear a mask/face covering ([see requirements](#))
- 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.

- To receive email updates on COVID-19, visit [loudoun.gov/coronavirus](http://loudoun.gov/coronavirus).
- Text **LCCOVID19** to **888777** to receive text alerts from Loudoun County about COVID-19.
- Envíe un mensaje de texto con **LCCOVIDESP** al **888777** para actualizaciones diaras relacionadas con el coronavirus (COVID-19) en el condado de Loudoun.

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

## Supervisor Koran T. Saines

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Loudoun County Board of Supervisors  
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STAY CONNECTED



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