



NEWSFLASH

Inside Sterling

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

Loudoun County
VIRGINIA



COVID-19 UPDATES ~DECEMBER 22, 2020~

Updates from the Office of Governor Ralph Northam



Virginia to Partner with Unite Us to Create Statewide Infrastructure Connecting Health and Social Services

- Integrated e-referral system will support ongoing COVID-19 response and recovery efforts, advance health equity
- [Read the Full Press Release](#)

Governor Northam Announces Grant Funding to Improve Food Access in Underserved Communities

- Virginia Food Access Investment Fund to support new and expanding food retailers,

innovative projects in food deserts.

- [Read the Full Press Release](#)

COVID-19 Vaccine: Things to Know

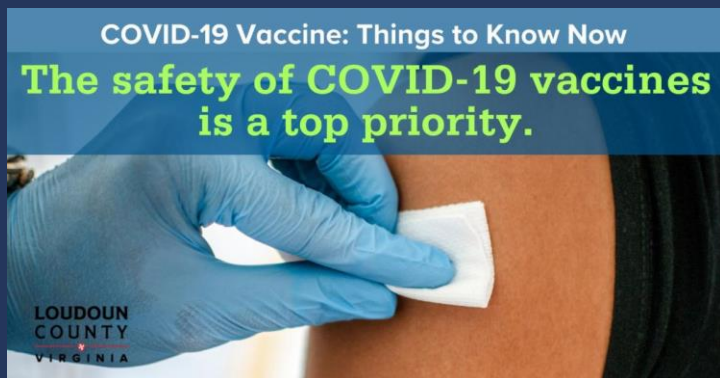
The safety of COVID-19 vaccines has been—and continues to be—a top priority.

The U.S. vaccine safety system ensures that all vaccines are as safe and effective as possible.

The COVID-19 vaccine has been developed using proven methods. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will approve only vaccines that have passed rigorous standards for use in the U.S.

Virginia's Unified Command, which oversees the Commonwealth's response to COVID-19, has established a Vaccine Unit to coordinate COVID-19 vaccination efforts. Information about the COVID-19 vaccination program is changing frequently, so the VDH has a COVID-19 Vaccination Response site that you can check often for updates.

[Learn More](#)



Managing Holiday Stress



The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the look and feel of our holidays this year.

Being away from family and friends can be hard and everyone reacts differently to stressful situations. A person's response can be based on

their background, their own personal characteristics, and the community they live in.

Consider these tips:

- Take care of your body
- Connect with others
- Take breaks
- Stay informed
- Avoid too much exposure to news
- Seek help when needed

Get more strategies for stress and more detailed information on coping with COVID-19 from the Virginia Department of Health.

[Learn More](#)

2021 New Virtual Trainings on Reversing Opioid Overdoses Scheduled

Loudoun County has scheduled several virtual training sessions for January 2021 on how to recognize and respond to an opioid overdose.

The free, one-hour training covers signs of opioid overdose and how to respond to an opioid overdose with the administration of naloxone, a drug that can be used to treat narcotic overdoses in emergency situations. Any registered participant completing the training will be eligible to receive free naloxone nasal spray.



- Anyone who uses opioids or knows someone who is using opioids is encouraged to sign up for the training. Pre-registration is required and is on a first-come, first-served basis. Those interested in attending may register online at loudoun.gov/revive.

More information about the opioid overdose reversal training is available at loudoun.gov/revive or by contacting the MHSADS Prevention and Intervention Program at [571-258-3365](tel:571-258-3365) or by email at LCMHFirstAid@loudoun.gov.

Celebrating the Holidays Safely During the COVID-19 Pandemic



different this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fall and winter holidays are a time of year when many people get together with extended family and friends outside their household. However, much like our day-to-day activities over the last several months, holidays are going to be a bit

When thinking about the holidays, it's wise to assess health risks before you make plans.

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. Talk with your family and friends and make plans together for socially distanced holiday celebrations. Those who choose to gather and travel over the holiday season should avoid high-risk activities.

[Learn More About Celebrating the Holidays Safely](#)

New Program Offers Grants Up to \$10,000 for Minority-Owned Businesses

The Community Foundation invites minority owned small businesses to apply to receive grants of \$5,000 to \$10,000. Organizations eligible to apply will demonstrate 51% ownership identifying as African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, or Native American and

residents of Loudoun County. Eligible businesses also must demonstrate that they are located in Loudoun County with annual net revenues less than \$250,000, or less than \$500,000 for businesses with three or more full-time employees.

Funds are expected to be distributed no later than February 1, 2021. Eligible businesses can [click here to apply](#) **by January 19, 2021**.

The Community Foundation is also providing online pre-application workshops; interested parties may register to attend on January 5th at [9:00 am](#) or [10:30 am](#). The latter session will include access to Spanish-language interpretation.



**Minority Owned
Small Business
Grant Program**

Loudoun County Hosts Free COVID-19 Testing Event December 29

COVID-19 TESTING

Tuesday, December 29

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Franklin Park

17501 Franklin Park Drive, Purcellville

Free & open to everyone.



loudoun.gov/COVID19testing

Loudoun County will hold another free drive-thru COVID-19 testing event Tuesday, December 29, 2020, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at:

- Franklin Park, 17501, Franklin Park Drive, Purcellville

The testing event is 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 in order to be tested.

Registration Form

To help reduce wait times, people who plan to attend the testing event are strongly encouraged to complete a registration form for each person who will be receiving a test prior to arriving at the testing site. The registration form is required and asks for general demographics and contact information, including name, date of birth, address, phone number and current symptoms, if any.

Registration Form: [English \(PDF\)](#) | [Spanish \(PDF\)](#)

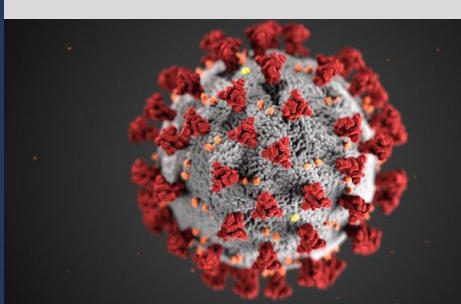
COVID-19 Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Web Resources

Some racial and ethnic minority groups are disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, play, and worship affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes, such as COVID-19 infection, severe illness, and death. These conditions are known as social determinants of health. Long-standing inequities in social determinants of health that affect these groups, such as poverty and healthcare access, are interrelated and influence a wide range of health and quality-of-life risks and outcomes.



Explore CDC's new web resources on [COVID-19 Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities](#). Learn how conditions in the places where people live, learn, work, play, and worship affect who's more likely to get COVID-19. Use interactive data and peer-reviewed literature to explore how COVID-19 shows up among racial and ethnic minority groups.

Stay Informed!



The county continues to encourage everyone in the community to take steps to limit the spread of COVID-19, which include:

**LOUDOUN
COUNTY**
—  —
VIRGINIA

Loudoun County encourages residents to stay informed about COVID-19

- To receive email updates on COVID-19, visit loudoun.gov/coronavirus.

- 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.

- 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.

- Avoid non-essential travel.

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

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STAY CONNECTED



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[About our service provider](#)

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