



COVID-19 Updates & Important Information ~NOVEMBER 23, 2021~

Planning to Travel or Gather with Others Over the Holidays? Be Safe: Get Tested for COVID-19

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Celebrate the Holidays Safely
during COVID-19

Get Tested for COVID-19
Before Traveling or
Gathering With Others

loudoun.gov/safeholiday

With the fall and winter holidays approaching, Loudoun County health officials advise those who are planning to travel or gather indoors with others to take precautions against COVID-19. This includes getting tested if you think you may have COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone who has the

virus.

When to Get Tested

When getting tested before traveling, you want to consider the timing. Ideally, you should take the test close to the date when you are traveling or planning to gather with others, but far enough ahead to get results.

Anyone who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue and a new loss of taste or smell, should get tested right away. Additionally, if you know you have been potentially exposed to someone with COVID-19, regardless of your vaccination status, you should get tested 5 days after the exposure.

If you get tested because you have symptoms or were potentially exposed to the virus, you should stay away from others pending test results and follow the advice of your health care provider or a public health professional

Where to Get Tested

Many pharmacies and health care providers offer COVID-19 tests in Loudoun County. To find a provider near you, visit the [Virginia Department of Health's website](#).

Loudoun County provides free COVID-19 testing weekly, on Tuesdays, at various locations. For testing schedules and event details, visit loudoun.gov/covid19testing.

[Learn More](#)

Loudoun County Now Offering COVID-19 Booster Appointments to All Adults

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has [authorized](#) vaccine providers to begin administering booster doses of the Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines to all adults, as [recommended](#) by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and [authorized](#) by the Food and Drug Administration. There are now booster recommendations for all three available COVID-19 vaccines in the United States.

**COVID-19
Vaccine Booster
Appointments
Now Available for
Everyone Age 18+**



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loudoun.gov/COVID19vaccine

Loudoun County is now offering appointments for booster doses at its Dulles Town Center clinic. Note that a limited number of booster appointments are available through November due to demand. Individuals who are 18 and older and received their second dose in the two-dose series of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine at least six months ago are eligible for the booster. People who received the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine at least two months ago are already recommended to receive a booster dose.

[Get More Information](#)

Thanksgiving Service Changes for Loudoun County Transit



Thanksgiving Holiday Bus Service - Wednesday, November 24, 2021

•Commuter, Local Fixed Route, and Metro Connection Bus services will operate on regular schedules Wednesday, November 24, 2021.

•The Loudoun County Courthouse Shuttle from

the Pennington Garage and Lot to the Courthouse will not run after 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 24, 2021.

Thanksgiving Holiday Bus Service - Thursday, November 25, 2021

- Bus services will not run Thursday, November 25, 2021, including Commuter, Local Fixed Route, Loudoun County Courthouse Shuttle, and Metro Connection Bus services.

Thanksgiving Holiday Bus Service - Friday, November 26, 2021

Commuter Bus Service

- Commuter Bus service will not run Friday, November 26, 2021.

Local Fixed Route Bus Services

- Local Fixed Route Bus service will operate on a regular schedule Friday, November 26, 2021.

Loudoun County Courthouse Shuttle

- The Loudoun County Courthouse Shuttle from the Pennington Garage and Lot to the Courthouse will not run Friday, November 26, 2021.

Metro Connection Bus Services

- Metro Connection Bus services will not run Friday, November 26, 2021, including stops at the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail station provided by Routes 87X, 88X, 931, 932, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 990 and 992 and stops at the West Falls Church Metrorail station provided by Routes 901 and 902.
 - As an alternative to Metro Connection Bus service, the [Local Fixed Route Bus Service](#) provides service to the Wiehle-Reston East Metro Station on Route 72 from Ashburn North, Route 84 from the Dulles Town Center Park & Ride Lot, and Route 985 from Sterling.

[Get More Details](#)

Thanksgiving Safety Tips

The Sterling Volunteer Fire Company and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) want you to be safe during the upcoming holidays. Ensure that your friends and family stays safe this Thanksgiving with these simple home cooking and electric safety tips.

Safety Tips:

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stove top so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey, and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay three feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children — up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.



[Learn More](#)

**REMINDER: Disability Services Board FAIME
Award Nominations Due November 29**

Loudoun Disability Services Board Seeks Nominations for FAIME Award

Nominations sought
for the 2021 Full
Accessibility &
Inclusion: Moving
toward Equity
(FAIME) Award.



loudoun.gov/dsb

The Loudoun County [Disability Services Board](#) is calling for nominations for the 2021 Full Accessibility and Inclusion: Moving toward Equity (FAIME) Award. The FAIME award honors businesses and organizations in Loudoun County that display a strong commitment and deliver demonstrated outcomes toward

the full inclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace.

Eligibility Requirements

- Businesses must demonstrate a commitment to hiring people with disabilities, to providing accommodations in the workplace, and to offering people with disabilities professional development opportunities so they can grow their skills.
- Nominees may be for-profit or nonprofit businesses but may not be government agencies and nonprofits whose mission it is to provide services to people with disabilities.

Nominate businesses that go above and beyond to recruit, hire, train and promote people with disabilities; that have an inclusive workplace and business model. Nominations should be submitted through [this online form](#). **The deadline to submit nominations is Monday, November 29, 2021.**

Winners will be notified in December 2021 and an awards reception is scheduled to be held in February 2022.

For more information, [email Loudoun County Accessibility Manager Sahar Behboudifar](#) or call [571-258-3282](tel:571-258-3282) (TTY 711).

**REMINDER: Loudoun Redistricting Tool Open
Through November 30**

An online mapping tool is now available for public use in Loudoun County's local redistricting process. **From November 1 through November 30, 2021**, the public can use this tool to develop and submit their own plans for consideration.



The tool is available on the [Redistricting Hub](#).

Seven examples of local redistricting plans are posted on the online tool; these examples serve as preliminary "starting points" for the Board and the public to consider how the county's current population can be balanced among election districts. The examples, prepared by county staff, are based on adjusted 2020 census data provided by the Virginia Division of Legislative Services, as well as on the Board's adopted 2021 Redistricting Guidelines

The local redistricting process determines which neighborhoods and communities are grouped together into a district for purposes of electing board members to the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors and School Board. By making sure districts have approximately the same number of people, redistricting can help to ensure residents have equal representation on the Board of Supervisors and School Board. It also affects for whom residents vote and where they vote, based on how the local electoral boundaries are drawn.

To submit general comments about the redistricting process, residents are encouraged to [use this comment form](#).

[Visit the Redistricting Hub](#)

**'Take Loudoun Home for the Holidays'
Campaign Returns for 2021**



With the end of year shopping season in sight, Loudoun County businesses, residents and visitors are encouraged to participate in the “Take Loudoun Home for the Holidays” campaign.

The annual initiative is backed by Loudoun Economic

Development, Visit Loudoun and the Loudoun Chamber of Commerce, and seeks to encourage consumers to connect with Loudoun farms and rural businesses and purchase local products.

Participating businesses applied to be part of the campaign, which features locally-sourced and seasonal products, CSA’s and farm subscriptions for 2022.

All participating businesses are currently listed at [TakeLoudounHome.com](https://www.takeloudounhome.com), and listings will be updated throughout the holiday season.

“Whether it’s a freshly-cut tree or wreath, artisan gift, craft food or beverage, or one-of-a-kind experience, supporting Loudoun’s farms and small businesses keeps shopping dollars in the local economy, reduces environmental impact, and provides the special people in your life with a unique holiday experience,” Loudoun Economic Development Executive Director Buddy Rizer explained. “Shopping local is about more than just convenience; this is supporting a neighbor, saving a job, and ensuring that the lights stay on for every #LoudounPossible business.”

Start your holiday shopping spree by thinking local this year. Shop today from [TakeLoudounHome.com](https://www.takeloudounhome.com)

Loudoun County Toys for Tots

After corresponding with the Loudoun County Health Department regarding the current level of COVID-19 transmission in Loudoun County, the challenge of contact tracing for large groups of volunteers, the inability to work outdoors, and the difficulty in maintaining the necessary



distancing when working indoors, it has been decided that the Loudoun County Toys for Tots will be conducting the 2021 season in the same manner as last year in order to keep it safe for all involved and still provide toys to children in need.

This year, rather than collecting toys, the Loudoun County Toys for Tots will be purchasing them. The best way to support the program, will be through monetary donations.

Organizations/businesses wishing to make a corporate donation by check, should email Loudoun.VA@ToysforTots.org to advise of this, and a W-9 form will be provided.

To donate online:

- Click on the **"Donate Local"** red button on the top right of this home page

To donate by check:

- Make check payable to "Toys for Tots," and mail to:

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

Although this is a change from the usual Loudoun County Toys for Tots program, the goal remains the same - to ensure that each child receives a new toy for Christmas.

[Get More Information](#)

Builders for Babies Diaper Drive



HomeAid Northern Virginia connects regional builders and housing industry professionals with non-profits focused on ending homelessness. This connection allows each group to do what they do best. HomeAid's partner builders and trade partners donate their expertise, time, and resources to renovate or build homeless

shelters, housing facilities, and other non-profit spaces.

HomeAid is collecting diapers/wipes for our shelter partners and they need your help.

The cost of disposable diapers is nearly \$1,000 a year per child which is a huge expense for families already struggling to get by. It can mean the difference between parents trying to stretch supplies by leaving diapers on their babies too long or reusing dirty diapers, leading to painful diaper rash and discomfort.

Help HomeAid reach their 50,000 goal by December 15th at the link below.

[More Information](#)

Board of Supervisors Adopts Resolution of Intent to Amend Zoning Ordinance

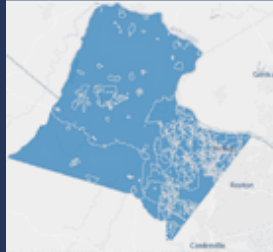
The Loudoun County Zoning Ordinance Rewrite project has reached a significant milestone. At its November 16, 2021 meeting, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors adopted a Resolution of Intent to Amend (ROIA) for the Revised 1993 Loudoun County Zoning Ordinance.

The ROIA is a formal resolution adopted by the BOS publicly announcing the intent to amend the entire Zoning Ordinance; adoption of a ROIA is a necessary step in revising the ordinance.

The Board's action marks the official referral of the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite to the Planning Commission for review and recommendations. The completion of the Loudoun County 2019 Comprehensive Plan provided the impetus for this major rewrite of the Revised 1993 ordinance. Key goals for the rewrite include:

- Implementation of the Loudoun County 2019 Comprehensive Plan vision, including the Urban Policy Area, which involves new place types with densities, standards, building forms and infrastructure that have yet to be realized in Loudoun County.
- Modernization: revising land uses and definitions to reflect the current marketplace, reevaluating parking ratios and calculations, updating lot and building standards, and aligning how the county administers planned unit developments with modern practice.
- Consistency audit: analyzing existing standards and striving for consistency within the document and across zoning districts when feasible.
- Structure and flow: improving the document structure, making it user-friendly and clear.
- Opportunities and challenges: evaluating input from stakeholders about the current Zoning Ordinance and making improvements where appropriate.

Board Adopts Intent to Amend Loudoun Zoning Ordinance



Next Steps:

- Public Open House
- 90-Day Public Review
- Planning Commission Review
- Board Adoption in Late 2022

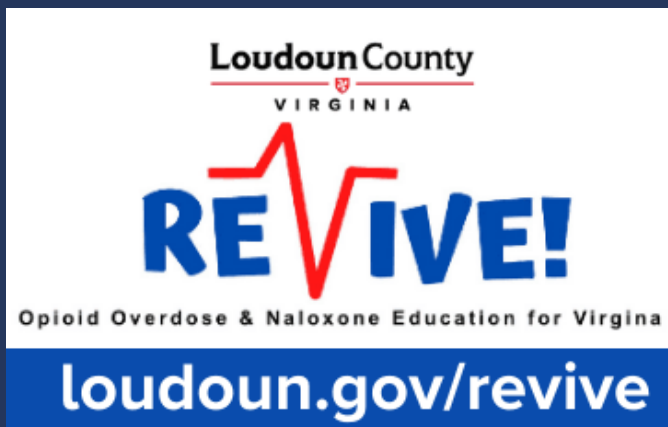
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loudoun.gov/zoningordinancerewrite

- Legislation: incorporating changes based on new or revised provisions of the Code of Virginia, court cases and best management practices promoted by the Virginia Association of Zoning Officials, Urban Land Institute and American Planning Association.

[Get More Information](#)

Learn How to Reverse an Opioid Overdose November 29 or December 3



Space is available in upcoming sessions of the Loudoun County Revive! opioid overdose reversal training. The virtual class lasts about one hour and is free.

Anyone who uses opioids or knows someone who does is encouraged to take the class to learn how to recognize and respond to an opioid

overdose.

Classes are scheduled through December 2021, including:

- Monday, November 29, 2021, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Friday, December 3, 2021, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
- Monday, December 13, 2021, 5:30 p.m.
- Friday, December 17, 2021, 12:00 p.m.

"REVIVE!" is the Opioid Overdose and Naloxone Education program for the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services (MHSADS), the Loudoun County Community Services Board and the Virginia Department of Health sponsor the local training sessions.

Those interested in attending must preregister at the link below. The training is open only to preregistered participants.

[Register Today](#)

Loudoun Businesses Encouraged to Apply for Grant to Invest in Resiliency

Starting at noon on December 1, businesses based in Loudoun County, Va., are encouraged to apply for a Business Recovery and Reinvention Grant, which is designed to fund innovative solutions that accelerate business growth for companies pivoting in the wake of COVID-19.



The pool of nearly \$4.5 million was appropriated by the Loudoun Board of Supervisors out of the county's American Rescue Plan Act funding from Congress. This marks the second grant run from the appropriated funds, as \$4.5 million was already disbursed to support hotels and other overnight accommodations in Loudoun County.

For the Business Recovery and Reinvention Grant, each applicant may receive grants of up to \$50,000. Eligible projects include making a business model change, adopting new technologies or practices, or otherwise reinventing a business to cope with the economic and/or public health requirements and challenges during the pandemic.

The application includes sections for business information, financial information, project information, criteria and certifications. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until the fund is exhausted.

[Learn More](#)

Support the Sterling Ruritan Club with Weekly Bingo



Members of the public are invited to join the Sterling Ruritan Club for weekly Bingo Nights on Thursdays at 7:00 pm (doors open at 5:30 pm) at 183 Ruritan Road, Sterling, VA.

Children 13 and older may play if accompanied by an adult. Refreshments will be available for purchase from Boy Scout Troop 966.

Bingo Night is the Sterling Ruritan Club's largest fundraiser to support community efforts such as the Ruritan Scholarship awarded to students in the Sterling area, as well as the annual banquet to recognize students for their achievements.

For more information on Bingo Night, the Ruritan, and the Sterling Club, visit their website at www.sterlingruritan.org.

**HealthCare.gov Insurance Open Enrollment
Period Now Through January 15**

The HealthCare.gov Open Enrollment Period is now underway! This year, on top of providing health care plans at record-low costs, the Biden-Harris Administration has extended the Marketplace Open Enrollment Period by 30 days **through January 15** to ensure everyone possible has enough time to get covered.

To help communities with disproportionately high uninsurance rates, the Biden-Harris Administration has quadrupled its Navigator footprint of people who can assist with the process of getting covered. With 1500 Navigators, the Administration has made assistance available in nearly every county in the country.

Thanks to the American Rescue Plan (ARP), coverage is also critically more affordable than ever. Four out of five people can find a plan for \$10 or less per month with this newly expanded financial assistance. Additionally, there are more coverage options this season than last, with the average consumer being able to choose between six and seven insurance companies with plan options.

All consumers shopping for health insurance coverage on [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) — even those who currently have coverage through the Marketplace — should enroll or re-enroll starting today by logging in to [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) and [CuidadodeSalud.gov](https://www.cuidadodesalud.gov) or call [1-800-318-2596](tel:1-800-318-2596) to fill out an application.

If you would like local assistance with this process, HealthWorks for Northern Virginia is here to assist with answering your questions and finding you coverage at one of three locations in the area! Call [703-840-4699](tel:703-840-4699) or visit www.hwnova.org to speak with an associate today



Get Health Insurance for 2022

Put your health and well-being first in 2022 with Marketplace health insurance. You can compare plans and find out what your costs will be before you enroll. You'll likely qualify for savings, even if you haven't before — most people do! Learn more at [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov).

OPEN ENROLLMENT RUNS

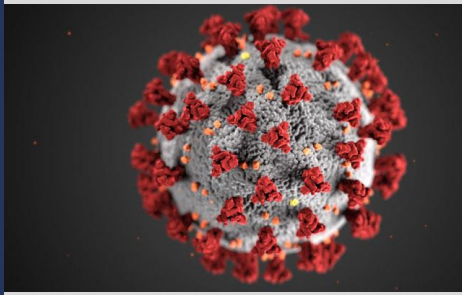
NOV 1 2021 TO **JAN 15 2022**

Health Insurance Marketplace
CMS Product No. 11920
September 2021

This product was produced at U.S. taxpayer expense.
Health Insurance Marketplace is a registered service mark of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.



Stay Informed!



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

- Wear a mask/face covering
- 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

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Loudoun County encourages residents to stay informed about COVID-19

- To receive email updates on COVID-19, visit 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.

- 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.

Supervisor Koran T. Saines

Sterling District Supervisor
Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
[703-777-0204](tel:703-777-0204)

[Loudoun County Government](#)

[Sterling District Supervisor Page](#)

[Email Koran T. Saines](#)

STAY CONNECTED



Sterling District | 1 Harrison Street, S.E., 5th Floor, Leesburg, VA 20177

[Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

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