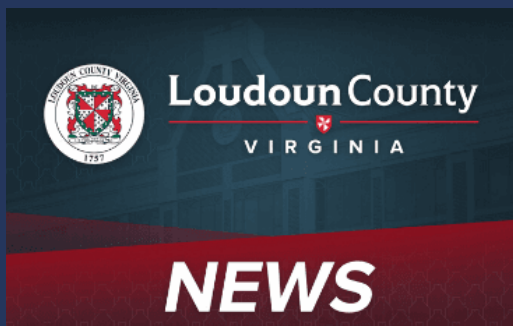




**COVID-19 UPDATES**  
**~AUGUST 7, 2020~**

**Loudoun Allocates CARES Act Funding to  
Nonprofit and Faith-Based Groups**



Loudoun County has allocated \$2.3 million to 53 local nonprofit and faith-based organizations that provide services to the community and have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The allocation is part of the federal funding made available to the county through the Commonwealth of Virginia from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES)

Act.

Following approval of the funding program by the Board of Supervisors in May 2020, the county accepted requests in June from local organizations seeking funding for programs in one of four categories: emergency food assistance, expansion of services due to COVID-19, interruption of services due to the pandemic; and a combination of expanded services and emergency food assistance.

[Learn More](#)

## COVIDWISE - Virginia's Free Exposure Notifications App

COVIDWISE is the Virginia Department of Health COVID-19 exposure notification app to facilitate contact tracing in response to the coronavirus that causes COVID-19.

Contact tracing is a technique used by public health authorities to contact and give guidance to anyone who may have been exposed to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19. This technique will be an essential part of transitioning back to regular daily life while managing the risk of further outbreaks.

COVIDWISE uses Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) technology to quickly notify users who have likely been exposed so you can reduce the risk of infection for your friends and family and help Virginia stop the spread.



**ADD YOUR  
PHONE  
TO THE  
COVID FIGHT**  
HELP VIRGINIA STOP COVID-19

[Learn More](#)

## Loudoun Election Officials Encourage Voters to Apply Online Now to Vote Absentee in November

**Apply Online to Vote Absentee**



[loudoun.gov/NovemberElection](https://loudoun.gov/NovemberElection)

Loudoun County election officials encourage voters to apply now to cast an absentee ballot by mail in the upcoming November general election.

While some third-party organizations, including the Center for Voter Information, are distributing vote-by-mail application forms, Loudoun County election officials encourage voters

to [apply online](#) through the Virginia Department of Elections. [Applications may also be downloaded](#) from the Virginia Department of Elections and, once completed, mailed, faxed or emailed to the [Loudoun County Office of Elections](#)

[and Voter Registration](#). Officials say anyone who has difficulty downloading the application may use the form they receive in the mail.

All registered voters are eligible to vote absentee in the November 3, 2020, election. The ballots will not be available to be mailed to voters until September 18, 2020, but voters may apply now for an absentee ballot. Voters who have already applied for an absentee ballot do not need to submit a new application.

[More Info on Voting in the November General Election in Loudoun](#)

## Loudoun Election Officials Encourage Voters to Apply Online Now to Vote Absentee in November

Governor Northam has launched a new grant program for small businesses and nonprofits called Rebuild VA. The program will provide grants of up to 3 times the applicant's average monthly eligible expenses up to a maximum award of \$10,000.



***REMINDER: The application will become available on August 10, 2020.***

These grants are aimed at assisting small businesses and nonprofits that have faced economic distress as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible entities include those in the following industry sectors: restaurant and beverage service, non-essential retail, exercise and fitness, personal care and personal grooming, entertainment and public amusement, private campgrounds, and overnight summer camps.

This statewide program is capitalized with \$70 million, which means we will be able to assist approximately 7,000 businesses. Half of the proceeds will be directed toward small businesses and nonprofits located in economically disadvantaged areas, including ensuring adequate representation of women-owned and minority-owned businesses.

For more information about Rebuild VA, eligibility criteria, covered expenses, and how to submit an application, visit [governor.virginia.gov/RebuildVA](https://governor.virginia.gov/RebuildVA).

## An Organization to Recognize: The Sterling Foundation



This week, I would like to recognize the Sterling Foundation for their hard work in keeping the community informed during these difficult times.

Below are a few initiatives that the Sterling Foundation has implemented or promoted over the course of the pandemic:

- Promoted small and independent restaurants in Sterling, pointing residents to those that offered curbside and contactless pickup.
- Later expanded this effort to other types of businesses that were open (with restrictions in place) or available for delivery and pickup both in Sterling and throughout Loudoun County.
- Reposted updates from local businesses and nonprofit organizations, as well as messages of encouragement, on the Sterling Foundation Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook pages.
- Recently restarted their community clean up efforts with [maintaining Sterling BLVD](#). Keeping the boulevard beautiful is a top priority for the Foundation.
  - Last week, over a [dozen volunteers](#) came out to pick up and remove trash from Sterling Boulevard.
  - Two weeks ago, Green Village Landscape assisted in [saving and repairing several trees](#) that were hit on the boulevard.

The Sterling Foundation has also decided to move forward with plans for SterlingFest 2020 in October, as well their very first car show! Stay up to date with the Sterling Foundation and their initiative by clicking the link below.

[Visit their site](#)

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## Two New Virtual Workshops from the Loudoun Workforce Resource Center

## **Your Transferable Skills**

**Tuesday, August 11th  
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m**

Skills are acquired in a variety of settings in work and life. Transferable skills are skills that can be used in every occupation, regardless of the type of work. Knowing your transferable skills can help you in choosing a career or make a career change. Identifying your transferable skills will give you a better sense of the strengths you can offer employers. In this workshop you'll have the opportunity to identify your transferable skills and reflect on how you can best apply them to your next position.



## **30 Second Commercial - 'So Tell Me About Yourself'**

**Tuesday, August 11th  
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m**

Networking can be easy and more comfortable if you have a 30-second commercial prepared. Also known as an 'elevator speech,' the commercial is your first chance to introduce yourself to someone and give them a short synopsis of your skills and experience with the goal of getting them to ask you for more information. In this workshop, learn what elements go into your 30-second commercial, write it and then practice, practice, practice!

[Register for These Workshops](#)

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## **Census Updates**

## Census employees are visiting Loudoun homes from now until October.

Facts to keep you & your information safe. **CENSUS EMPLOYEES:**



Will wear masks and practice physical distancing.



Will have a bag and ID with their photo and agency logo.



Only visit homes that have **not** responded.

You can still respond online:

[2020Census.gov](https://www.2020Census.gov)



Will NOT ask for your immigration status or SSN.

Operations for the 2020 census continue in Loudoun County, where more than 78% of households have responded. Census employees have begun visiting households that have not yet responded to the census.

According to [U.S. Census Bureau guidelines](#), the workers going door to door will take measures to protect residents' health and information, including:

- Wearing a face covering, keeping 6 feet of distance from respondents and making all efforts to complete the survey outside of the home.
- Carrying identification, including a bag with the U.S. Census Bureau logo, a Census-Bureau-issued phone, and an ID badge with a photograph and Department of Commerce logo. Residents may verify the identity of a census employee by calling [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020).

The census provides critical data used to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

Loudoun's Census count impacts Loudoun County Public Schools more than any other county program. Loudoun County receives more than \$15 million in federal funding based on Census data for school programs. These programs include free and reduced-price school meals, special education, Title I resources, Head Start, teacher training and more. For each child or adult not counted in the 2020 Census, Loudoun County expects to lose \$2,000 per year in federal funding during the next 10 years.

Households can still respond now by completing and mailing back the paper questionnaire they received, by responding online at [2020.Census.Gov](https://www.2020Census.gov), or by phone at [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020). Households can respond online or by phone in one of 13 languages and find assistance in many more. Those that respond will not need to be visited to obtain their census response.

[Find Out More](#)

## Virtual Job Fair August 19th

The Loudoun Workforce Resource Center will host a Loudoun Virtual Job Fair on **Wednesday, August 19, 2020, with online sessions running from 9:00 a.m. through 3:00 p.m.**

The Virtual Job Fair will feature local employers with full-time, part-time and temporary job openings in Loudoun County and the region.



Those planning to attend the job fair are encouraged to [pre-register](#) to receive reminders and updates.

A preparatory workshop is being held on Wednesday, August 12, 2020, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Register online at [loudoun.gov/wrcworkshops](http://loudoun.gov/wrcworkshops).

[Read the news release for more details](#)

## Relaxed Enforcement & Insurance Premium Reductions



The Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced a temporary policy of relaxed enforcement that will allow health insurance issuers to offer temporary premium reductions for individuals with 2020 coverage in the individual and small group markets.

CMS is providing this additional flexibility to help ensure that consumers struggling to pay their premiums can continue to be covered and receive the care they may need during this time.

This temporary policy will be in effect until the end of 2020. Issuers are generally prohibited under current federal requirements from changing premiums for health

insurance coverage offered in the individual and small group markets after the start of the benefit year.

[Read the Full Guidance](#)

## Warm Line Available for those Struggling with COVID Trauma, Grief or Stress

The Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), in conjunction with Mental Health America of Virginia, has established a COVID-19 Response Non-Emergency Warm Line for those struggling with distress, grief, or trauma caused by COVID-19.

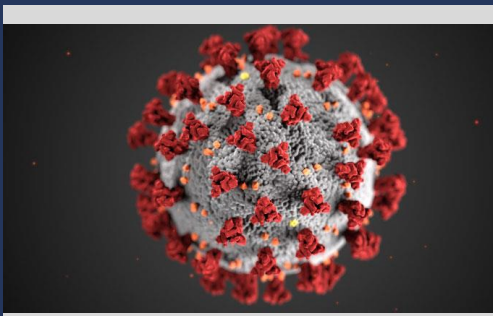


Trained staff provide strength-based support, resilience building strategies, and community resources and referrals for those in need.

Call or text the VA COPES Warm Line toll free at [877-349-6428](tel:877-349-6428). This is an anonymous, no cost service. Hours of operation for are 9:00 am – 9:00 pm on Monday–Friday and 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday.

[More Information](#)

## Stay Informed!



**LOUDOUN  
COUNTY**  
  
**VIRGINIA**



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 ([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.

Loudoun County encourages residents to stay informed about COVID-19

- To receive email updates on COVID-19, visit [loudoun.gov/coronavirus](https://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

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

[About our service provider](#)

Sent by koran.saines@loudoun.gov powered by

