

Loudoun County Division of Housing and Community Development

Home Cents Seminar for New Homeowners 2017



Home Cents Overview

- ▣ Approximately 30 minutes
- ▣ Topics include:
 - Personal Finances
 - Preventing Foreclosure
 - Taxes
 - Home Maintenance and Repair
 - Community Resources



Home Cents Overview

www.loudoun.gov/homecentsresources

Technical Difficulties?

Sahar Behboudifar, Community Development Specialist

(703) 771-5590

Accommodations and Language Assistance? Department
of Family Services

(703) 777-0353/TTY-711

Home Cents 2017





Personal Finances

- ▣ New expenses as a homeowner
- ▣ Managing new debt
- ▣ Your spending plan
- ▣ Your savings plan
- ▣ Being prepared for financial hardship

Personal Finances

- ▣ Record keeping
- ▣ Maintaining your good credit



www.annualcreditreport.com

Protect Your Largest Investment



- ▣ Maintenance and Repairs
(Also see Section III of Home Cents)
- ▣ Refinancing and Equity
- ▣ Insurance

Personal Finance Resources

FDIC Money Smart

<https://www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/moneysmart/>

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau –
Your Money, Your Goals

<http://www.consumerfinance.gov/your-money-your-goals/>



Preventing Foreclosure

- ▣ Contact your lender right away
- ▣ Contact an organization providing foreclosure prevention counseling
- ▣ Don't leave your home!



Foreclosure Prevention Resources

NeighborWorks America (Foreclosure Counselors)

[www.neighborworks.org/Homes-Finances/Foreclosure/Foreclosure-Counseling-\(NFMC\)](http://www.neighborworks.org/Homes-Finances/Foreclosure/Foreclosure-Counseling-(NFMC))

Making Home Affordable (US Department of Treasury
and US Department of Housing and Urban
Development)

www.makinghomeaffordable.gov



Foreclosure Prevention Resources

Freddie Mac – Credit Smart, including Preserving Home Ownership

<http://www.freddiemac.com/creditsmart/>

Federal Housing Administration (HUD) – Tips to Avoid Foreclosure

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/topics/avoiding_foreclosure

Homeownership Preservation Foundation

www.995hope.org



Home Maintenance



- Refer to Google and YouTube.
- Safety first!
- Make sure you have proper clothes, eyewear, and tools.

If you get stuck, call your local handyman.

www.dpor.virginia.gov/LicenseLookup

Home Maintenance Schedule

Monthly

- ▣ Change HVAC filters
- ▣ Clean HVAC clean out
- ▣ Clean garbage disposal
- ▣ Clean range hood or exhaust filters
- ▣ Inspect your fire extinguishers
- ▣ Inspect basement for leaks



Home Maintenance Schedule

Quarterly

- ▣ Test smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors
- ▣ Test garage door and lube springs
- ▣ Be sure to run water in unused spaces
- ▣ Check water softener

Biannually

- ▣ Test water heater's pressure relief valve
- ▣ Clean house and inspect
- ▣ Replace batteries in smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors



Spring and Summer: Things to Do

- ▣ Check, Clean, Inspect
 - Gutters
 - Exterior Drains
 - Roof for leaks
- ▣ Service HVAC system
- ▣ Repair and replace window screens
- ▣ Clear dead plants and shrubs away from house and electric lines



Spring and Summer: Things to Do

- ▣ Inspect and repair grout in bathroom and kitchen
- ▣ Inspect for insects and bird nests
- ▣ Clean and Repair
 - Deck
 - Patio
 - Window wells
 - Dryer vents
 - Exhaust
- ▣ Clean the garage





Fall and Winter: Things to Do

- ❑ Flush hot water heater and remove sediment
- ❑ Get heating system ready for winter
- ❑ Turn off outdoor water faucets
- ❑ Clean chimney. Hire a professional.
- ❑ Inspect driveway for cracks and patch
- ❑ Test sump pump
- ❑ Get winter gear in order. Think snow!

Fall and Winter: Things to Do



- ❑ Check for ice dams and icicles
- ❑ Make sure electrical outlets and lights are working
- ❑ Check and tighten locks, handles, and knobs
- ❑ Check and repair caulking in water areas and on all trim
- ❑ Remove showerheads and clean out sediment

Home Maintenance Resources

National Center for Healthy Housing – Healthy Homes Maintenance Checklist

www.achd.net/safehomes/pubs/pdf/healthy_homes_maintenance_checklist.pdf

HUD Healthy Homes Maintenance Checklist

https://www.hud.gov/offices/lead/library/hhi/Healthy_Housing_CheckList.pdf



Zoning and Building Permits

[www.loudoun.gov/
zoning](http://www.loudoun.gov/zoning)

[www.loudoun.gov/
zoning/enforcement](http://www.loudoun.gov/zoning/enforcement)

[www.loudoun.gov/
buildingpermits](http://www.loudoun.gov/buildingpermits)

[www.loudoun.gov/
homeownerguides](http://www.loudoun.gov/homeownerguides)



Historic Districts

www.loudoun.gov/historic-districts



Fire Safety



www.loudoun.gov/smokealarms

www.loudoun.gov/fireprevention

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Homeowners Associations

An **HOA** is an affiliation of homeowners in a development that oversees enforcement of private covenants, or rules.

Loudoun County Homeowners Associations

www.loudoun.gov/hoas

Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation – Community Associations

www.dpor.virginia.gov/CIC-Ombudsman/



Road Maintenance

Virginia Department of
Transportation

www.virginiadot.org/

Loudoun County Road
Maintenance

www.loudoun.gov/roads



Taxes

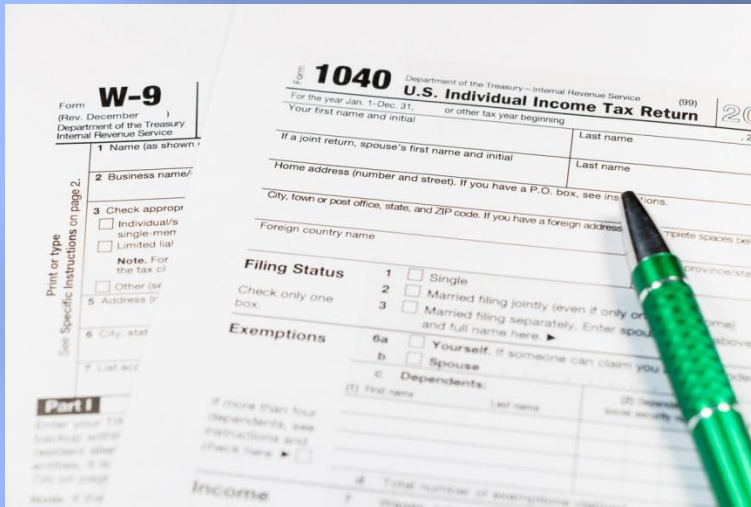
▣ Real Estate Taxes

- Assessment of taxes
- Timeframes
- Penalty

▣ Personal Property Taxes

www.loudoun.gov/taxes





Taxes

- ❑ State and federal income taxes
- ❑ Benefits of homeownership
- ❑ Free tax preparation assistance

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Tax Resources

VITA Free Tax Assistance

<https://www.irs.gov/individuals/free-tax-return-preparation-for-you-by-volunteers>

AARP Foundation Tax Aide

www.aarp.org/taxaide

IRS Tax Information for Homeowners – Publication 530

<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p530.pdf>



Community Resources

Loudoun County Homebuyer Guide

<https://www.loudoun.gov/homebuyer>

Loudoun County Workforce Resource Center

<https://www.loudoun.gov/wrc>

Credit Counseling and Financial Literacy Resources

<https://www.loudoun.gov/DocumentCenter/View/122182>



Community Resources

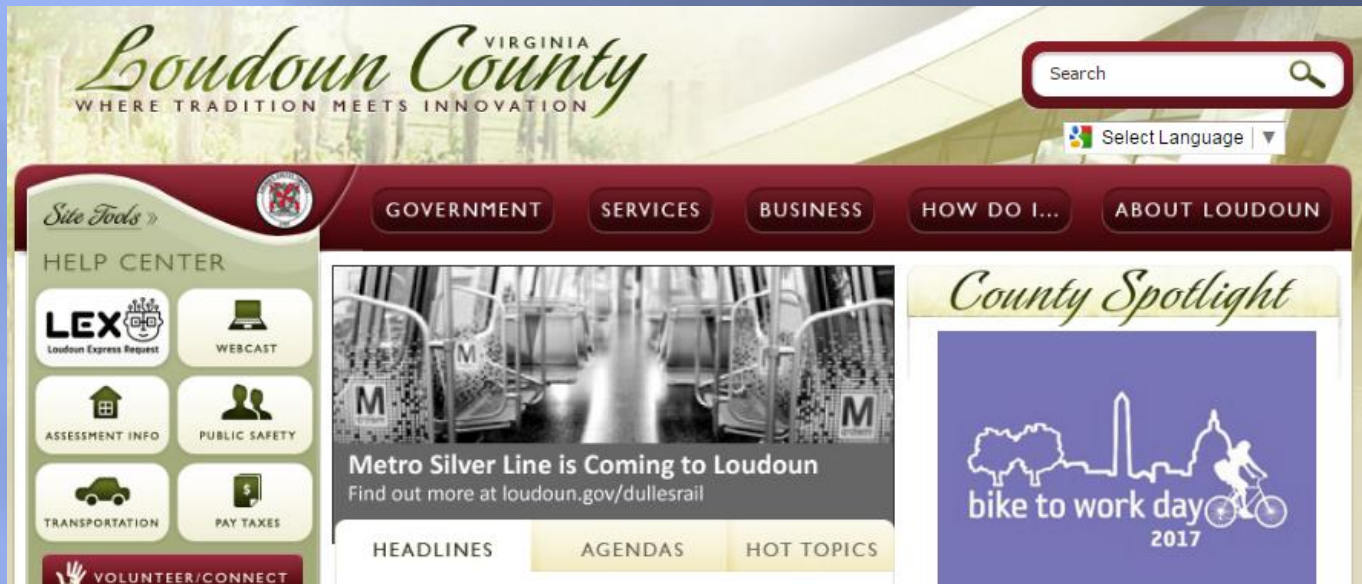


Loudoun Cares
Information and Referral Agency
www.loudouncares.org

Northern Virginia Regional Commission
Quick Guide to Services
www.novaregion.org



Government Resources



www.loudoun.gov

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Home Cents Summary

Educate yourself now!

Don't wait for hardship!

Utilize valuable resources!

Loudoun County Division of Housing
and Community Development

www.loudoun.gov/housing

(703) 777-0353

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We appreciate your feedback!

www.loudoun.gov/homecents

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