

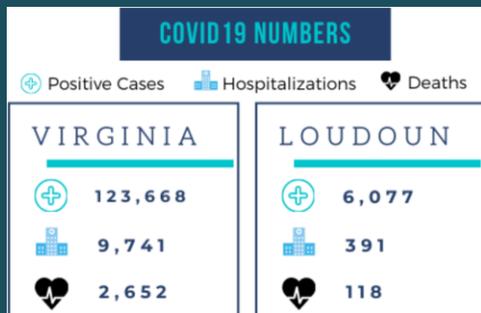


All About Algonkian

Juli E. Briskman | Algonkian District Supervisor



COVID-19 Update



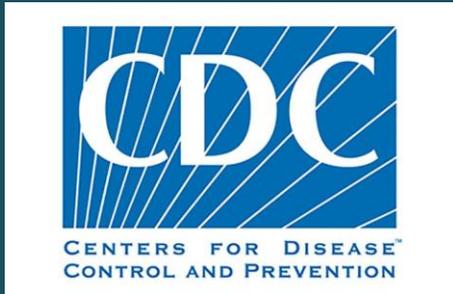
Local and State COVID-19 Trends

According to a model used by the Loudoun County Department of Health, cases are estimated to increase by an average of 36 cases per day over the next six days. There are currently 123,668 cases of COVID-19 in Virginia with the highest

proportion of cases coming from individuals aged 20-29 (24,943). While the elderly and those with preexisting conditions have a higher risk of experiencing severe symptoms, everyone is encouraged to slow the spread through social distancing and wearing masks.

At his September 1 press conference, Governor Ralph Northam reiterated the importance of practicing social distancing. He stated that COVID-19 is only moderately contained in Virginia and the state must "double-down" on mitigation efforts like hand-washing, mask-wearing, and avoiding large groups to prevent a possible surge after Labor Day weekend. Regarding the upcoming holiday, Governor Northam said Virginia experienced a surge of cases after both Memorial Day and Independence Day. Northam also made the decision to not lift more stringent restrictions in the Hampton Roads area and noted cases of COVID-19 have risen across the state over the past week.

For more information, visit [VDH COVID-19 Daily Dashboard](#). The Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association is reporting daily hospitalizations on the [VHHA dashboard](#).



CDC Halts Residential Evictions

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued an Order to place a moratorium on evictions nationwide through December 31, 2020. Under the CDC Order, individual renters earning no more than \$99,000 in annual income (no more than \$198,000 for those filing jointly) cannot be

evicted if they are unable to pay the full rent amount due to loss of household income or work due to COVID-19, have exhausted best efforts to pay rent, seek Government rental assistance, and are likely to become homeless due to eviction.

Those who benefit from this assistance will still be obligated to pay accrued rent or housing payments in accordance with the lease or contract. The intent of this Order is to prevent evictions that could exacerbate the spread of COVID-19. [Preview the unofficial Order on the Federal Register website.](#) The official document will be published in the Federal Register on September 4, 2020. Only official editions of the Federal Register provide legal notice to the public and judicial notice to the courts.



DMV Extends Validity of Some Credentials

Governor Ralph Northam's Fifth Executive Directive 7, effective

August 28, 2020, extends the validity of some credentials issued by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to accommodate Virginians with driver's licenses, learner's permits, and identification cards expiring during the COVID-19 public health emergency. This extension gives Virginians more time to renew these important credentials.

The Fifth Executive Directive 7 specifically sets out the following:

- The validity of driver's licenses, learner's permits, and identification cards originally expiring in August, September, and October 2020 is extended for 60 days beyond the expiration date displayed on the credential. These customers have not previously received an extension and their credential must display an expiration date in August, September, or October 2020.
- Customers who have not yet renewed a driver's license, learner's permit, or ID card already expired in August are also eligible for the extension at no penalty.

- The validity of driver's licenses, learner's permits, and identification cards that expire in November has been extended through November 30, 2020.

Vehicle registrations have not been further extended.

Governor Northam issued the original Executive Directive 7 on March 17, 2020, and, through subsequent amendments, provided Virginians additional time to conduct DMV transactions by extending the validity of driver's licenses, learner's permits, identification cards, and vehicle registrations set to expire between March 15 and July 31, 2020, for up to 180 days, not to exceed October 31, 2020. These extensions remain in effect as previously provided and are unchanged by this amendment.

DMV is also implementing a new option to allow for renewing driver's licenses online or by mail that would normally be required to be done in person. Beginning in mid-September, customers who are due to renew their eight-year credential in person (because they renewed online or by mail last time) will have two options for renewing.

- **Option 1: Eight-year/renew by appointment** – Schedule an appointment to renew the driver's license or ID card for the full eight years.
- **New - Option 2: Two-year/renew remotely** – Renew online or by mail a driver's license or ID card to be valid for two years. DMV will mail the credential to the customer's address on file. (Customers are encouraged to make sure their address is current.) In two years, these customers will need to visit DMV for their next renewal, a vision screening, and a new photo for an eight-year credential. (This option is not available to customers age 75+ as Virginia law requires an in-person renewal every five years.)

To date, DMV has reopened 72 customer service centers for specific services by appointment only. Three months of appointment opportunities are available at any time on the calendar. Each day additional appointments are added to the end of the available 90-day period. Customers are encouraged to check back regularly to view the updated availability as locations reopen and appointments are added.

Reopened DMV offices are providing specific services that generally require an in-person visit. These transactions include original driver's licenses and identification cards, original titles, original vehicle registrations, disabled parking permits, and vital records. If a transaction can be conducted by another method, such as online or by mail, customers should use that method. For a complete list of appointment services currently available and to schedule an appointment, visit dmvNOW.com/appt.

DMV is operating reopened customer service centers throughout the Commonwealth with protocols and best practices recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Virginia Department of Health. Strict social distancing is required for the health and wellbeing of customers and

employees. Per Executive Order Sixty-Three, the Commonwealth of Virginia requires the wearing of face coverings in public indoor settings.



FEMA Announces Lost Wages Grant for Virginia

FEMA Administrator Pete Gaynor approved Virginia for a FEMA grant under the Lost Wages Assistance program. FEMA's grant funding will allow Virginia to provide \$300 per week -- on top of their regular unemployment benefit -- to those unemployed due to COVID-19. FEMA will work with Virginia Governor Ralph Northam to implement a system to make this funding available to Virginia residents.

On Aug. 8, 2020, President Trump made available up to \$44 billion from FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund to provide financial assistance to Americans who have lost wages due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, the state of Virginia agreed to administer a lost wages program for its citizens who are unemployed due to COVID-19. FEMA looks forward to working with the governors of additional states who agree to administer a lost wages program to bring financial relief to unemployed Americans.



Disasters Don't Wait. Make Your Plan Today.

The impact of Hurricane Laura on the Gulf Coast and the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic serve as reminders to Loudoun County residents and businesses to take time to prepare for all types of emergencies in September, which is recognized as National Preparedness month.

"The 2020 theme, 'Disasters Don't Wait. Make Your Plan Today' is very timely," said Loudoun County Emergency Management Coordinator Kevin Johnson. "There is no better time to prepare; we have the ongoing pandemic in the middle of hurricane season and even though Loudoun is inland, we are still vulnerable to the effects of hurricanes, which can produce extensive flooding hundreds of miles from the coast."

Johnson adds that residents should take COVID-19 into account in their disaster preparedness efforts. For example, emergency supply kits should include items that

can protect against the novel coronavirus, such as hand sanitizer, soap, disinfectant wipes and face coverings. More information about keeping yourself and others safe from COVID-19 during natural disasters is available from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#).

Steps to Prepare for Emergencies

Emergency management officials urge everyone to follow a few simple steps for emergency preparedness. Everything families and businesses operators need to know [is available online](#).

Make a Plan

Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to plan ahead for how to get to a safe place, contact loved ones and reunite once the emergency is over.

- Use [online resources](#) to put together a plan for your family and talk about what you will do in different situations; your plan should include contact information, evacuation routes and meeting locations.
- Include finances in your plan. Keep some cash on hand in case of emergencies, since ATMs and credit card readers won't always be available.
- Discuss [household plans for disasters](#) that may affect your area and plan where to go.
- Include [pets and livestock](#) in your emergency plans.

Build a Kit

Being prepared means having your own food, water and other supplies to last for at least 72 hours. A disaster supplies kit is a collection of basic items your household may need in the event of an emergency. Your kit should include:

- Batteries
- Cell phone chargers
- Face coverings
- First aid supplies
- Food and water, including pet food
- Prescription medications
- Soap, hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes to disinfect surfaces

An expanded list of disaster supplies is online at loudoun.gov/makeakit.

Be Informed

Know the types of [hazards](#) that may occur and how you will receive information before, during and after an emergency.

- Sign up for [Alert Loudoun](#) to get emergency information and other Loudoun County news and information.
- Follow Loudoun County Government on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Monitor local weather forecasts from the [National Weather Service](#). Consider getting a NOAA weather radio.

Throughout National Preparedness Month, follow Loudoun County Government on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for tips on preparing yourself and your family for all types of hazards. For more information and resources on preparing for emergencies, visit loudoun.gov/ready.



Governor's Updates

Governor Ralph Northam announced that more than \$6 million in federal funding from the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) Program was approved by the Executive Committee of the Criminal Justice Services Board of the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). The Committee awarded 171 grants to localities, nonprofit organizations, and state agencies throughout Virginia. As a program under the federal

Coronavirus Aid, Recovery, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, CESF grants assist criminal justice entities in their ongoing mitigation and response efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CESF grants will support the purchase of video technology to conduct remote hearings, laptops to enable more employees to telework, as well as additional support for community supervision as more individuals are being diverted away from incarceration. Additionally, this funding will be used to equip those working for criminal justice entities with personal protective equipment, decontamination supplies, and screening equipment to help protect individuals when in-person contact cannot be avoided.

These awards constitute 56 percent of the \$10.83 million in CESF grants awarded to the Commonwealth. DCJS anticipates putting out another solicitation within the next nine months to distribute the remaining funding to criminal justice entities in need. To be notified when the next solicitation is released, please sign up [here](#). More information about the \$6,054,850 in CESF grants approved by the Executive Committee on August 27 is available [here](#).

Governor Northam also announced \$4 million in funding for the Legal Services Corporation of Virginia, which will support 20 Legal Aid attorneys in providing services to Virginia tenants facing eviction for the next two years. This critical investment comes as thousands of Virginians continue to be at risk of eviction and

is supported in part by a \$2 million donation from IKEA U.S. Community Foundation. The Governor will match the donation with \$2 million from Virginia's COVID-19 Relief Fund, which was approved by the General Assembly in April.

Although \$1.5 million per year for Legal Aid was unallotted from Virginia's biennial budget, this \$4 million in funding will allow for additional support during the COVID-19 pandemic. Legal Aid attorneys play a critical role in eviction diversion in the Commonwealth—Virginia families facing eviction have successful outcomes 72 percent of the time when represented by Legal Aid lawyers, as opposed to just 34 percent without representation.

Please share any messages of hope you see. Submissions may be sent to Zachary Harris at zachary.harris@loudoun.gov and we'll share them in our updates and newsletter.

If you are having trouble paying your utilities because of COVID-19, visit the County's webpage on [COVID-19 Utilities](#). You will find program information on:

Columbia Gas
Dominion Power
Loudoun Water
NOVEC
Washington Gas
Wi-fi Connectivity

For More Current COVID-19 Information

Visit: www.loudoun.gov/CoronaVirus

Call: (703) 737-8300

Email: Health@Loudoun.gov

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