

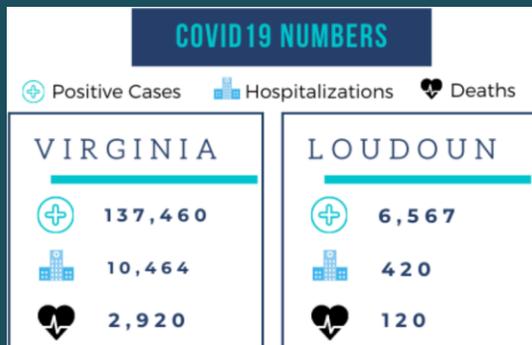


All About Algonkian

Juli E. Briskman | Algonkian District Supervisor



COVID-19 Update



Local and State COVID-19 Trends

A model used by the Loudoun County Department of Health estimates that COVID-19 cases will increase an average of 24 cases per day over the next six days. As of September 15, the percent positivity rate stood at 6.8 percent, which made for 12

consecutive days of decline. After experiencing a spike in cases over the summer, the Hampton Roads area recorded a 6.2 percent positivity rate on the same day. However, southwest Virginia had a percent positivity rate of 8.1 percent. Governor Ralph Northam highlighted this as a particular point of concern because the less populous southwest has reduced access to medical care and ICU beds. More information is available at both the [Loudoun County data dashboard](#) and [Virginia Department of Health website](#).

Due to significantly improved health metrics in the Eastern Region, localities in Hampton Roads joined the rest of the Commonwealth in Phase Three of the "Forward Virginia" plan last week.

The region's targeted COVID-19 restrictions went into effect nearly six weeks ago on July 31 and included a ban on gatherings of more than 50 people, a reduction in indoor dining to 50 percent capacity, and a requirement that restaurants close at midnight and stop the sale of alcohol after 10:00 p.m. The impacted localities include cities of Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Norfolk, Suffolk, Portsmouth,

Hampton, Williamsburg, Newport News, Poquoson, James City County and York County. Hospitalizations, including COVID-19 intensive care unit hospitalizations, have been declining, and the current rate of emergency room admissions is steadily decreasing.

The full text of amended Executive Order Sixty-Seven and Order of Public Health Emergency Seven is available [here](#).



CARES ACT: NONPROFIT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Attention nonprofit and faith-based organizations:
Loudoun County is allocating \$2.25 million to support eligible nonprofit and faith-based organizations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding is provided through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Applications Available September 17

**LOUDOUN
COUNTY
VIRGINIA**

loudoun.gov/grantopportunities

Nonprofits Encouraged to Apply for CARES Act Funding Round 2

Loudoun County is allocating \$2.25 million for eligible nonprofit and faith-based organizations 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.

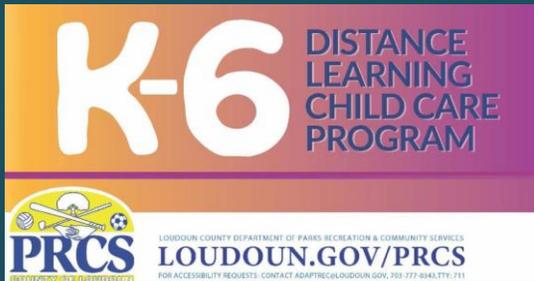
These funds will be available to Loudoun nonprofits and faith-based organizations who meet this criteria:

- Are in good standing with the Virginia State Corporation Commission.
- Can provide proof of nonprofit status.
- Can provide copies of IRS Form 990 for the past three years.
- Can demonstrate their services have been affected by COVID-19.

The county will accept funding requests for these programs:

- **Emergency Food Assistance Program:** This program is an extension of the Food Assistance Program that began in April. Organizations may request funding for the purchase of food and food delivery expenses.
- **COVID-19 Service Expansion Program:** This program provides funds to organizations that demonstrate they have significantly expanded their services due to COVID-19.
- **Nonprofit Service Interruption Program:** This program provides funds to organizations that can demonstrate they have had to interrupt their services due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Nonprofit Service Continuity:** This program provides funds to organizations that can demonstrate that their level of services and residents served have been maintained at a consistent, stable level but have had unexpected costs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additional details can be found [here](#).



Board Approves Revisions to Child Care Program

The Loudoun County Board of Supervisors has voted to revise the county's K-6 Distance Learning Child Care Program. The Board's action limits the capacity of the program and

lowers the cost to participants.

During the September 15 business meeting, the Board voted to:

Cap the number of children in the program at 600, which eliminates the need for libraries and community and recreation center locations for the program. The service will continue to be offered at 11 elementary schools and two leased buildings.

- Reduce program fees. The new monthly rate for the five-day, full-day program is \$690, which is 70% of the original rate. The new monthly rate for the five-day, school day program is \$345, which is 50% of the original rate. (Loudoun County Public Schools Free and Reduced Lunch Program participants receive a 50% discount; and employees of Loudoun County Government and LCPS receive a 10% discount.)
- Increase the flexibility of the program by offering it for two or three days a week in addition to the current five-day program at commensurate rates.
- Registration for the K-6 Distance Learning Child Care Program continues on a rolling basis. Parents who are interested in the service may find program details and a link to register at loudoun.gov/DLchildcare.

The Board was able to lower the cost of the program by reducing total enrollment, temporarily diverting staff resources within the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, which operates the child care program, and adjusting the program's funding formula that includes federal dollars from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, fees from participants, and local dollars from the county's general fund. Funding details are outlined in the [staff report](#) that was presented to the Board.

The Board asked county staff to reevaluate the program after it launched with lower enrollment than expected. The program was developed to support working parents who have an unexpected need for child care this fall due to the LCPS decision to begin the 2020-2021 school year with all distance learning. The original scope of the county's plan was based on surveys of parents in the community who expressed a significant need for the service.



State Extends Utility Cut-off Moratorium

The general moratorium on utility shutoffs is extended through October 5, 2020. The State Corporation Commission (SCC) issued the order following a request from Virginia Governor Ralph S. Northam. The moratorium was originally set to end on September 16. In a letter to the Commission on September 14, the Governor said, "My request for an extension will give the General Assembly the time they need to address this issue, finalize their budget, and complete their important work during this special session."

In granting another extension, the Commission said it will not extend the moratorium beyond October 5, 2020. The Commission urged the Governor and General Assembly to appropriate funds for direct financial assistance to those customers who are unable to pay their bills due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission said, "We hope the General Assembly uses this additional time to act on this recommendation."

The end of the Commission-directed moratorium on October 5 does not mean the end of protections for customers in arrears who are making a good-faith effort to pay their bills over a longer time period. Customers who enter such extended payment plans with their utilities will continue to be protected from service cut-offs even after the end of this moratorium.



GW Nursing Students Take Charge at COVID- 19 Testing Site

When it was announced that George Washington University would be bringing back a limited number of students, faculty and staff on campuses this fall and that individuals would need to be regularly tested for COVID-19, leaders at the GW School of Nursing got to work.

They needed to quickly launch the testing clinic they had been planning for over the past few months and prepare to complete hundreds of COVID-19 nasal swabs for the GW community based on the Virginia Science and Technology campus. From ordering supplies to setting up individual testing booths, getting the site up and running was a massive undertaking, but it also presented an opportunity for hands-on learning.

The roughly 400 undergraduate students in the Accelerated B.S.N. and Veterans B.S.N. program are part of the cohort that need to be on campus this fall in order to fulfill academic requirements. The school graduates more than 125 new nurses every semester, who in turn enter the regional nursing workforce. Students in the last semester of the Accelerated B.S.N. program are helping with day-to-day clinic operations including collecting nasal specimens, registering individuals for surveillance testing and taking turns serving as the charge nurse overseeing the clinic.

Eight students staff the clinic, based in Enterprise Hall, during operational hours. Every two weeks a new cohort of students will swap in, with overlap time for training. Working in the clinic helps students fulfill requirements for their community health clinical, which during a typical year they would fulfill at places like the Colonial Health Center or other local clinics. Faculty nurses are on site to assist the students and answer any questions that come up.

During the first week of operations, the VSTC clinic tested more than 500 individuals for COVID-19. Those tests are taken twice daily to the Foggy Bottom campus, where they are processed in a new public health laboratory in Science and Engineering Hall. Every single one of those first 600 tests was determined to be a high-quality sample acceptable for testing.

The on-campus lab provides for rapid testing and produces results within 24 hours. This quick turnaround empowers university's health experts to pinpoint any potential outbreaks or surges in the number of COVID-19 cases within the GW community. Samples collected from the Foggy Bottom testing clinic located at the Smith Center and staffed by the Medical Faculty Associates are processed in the same lab.



Governor's Update

At a press conference on September 15, Governor Ralph Northam provided information on Virginia's preparations for Election Day. About 790,000 residents have requested absentee ballots, which already exceeds the 566,000 requested during the entirety of the 2016 election. An excuse is no longer required to vote absentee and they can be requested on the [Virginia Department of Elections website](#).

After filling out an absentee ballot, voters can either mail it back or hand deliver to their local registrar's office. Due to legislation recently passed by the General Assembly, ballot drop boxes have been approved and their locations will be displayed on the local registrar's website. Furthermore, mail-in ballots have prepaid postage, so no stamp is required.

Voters also have the option of voting early in-person or in-person on Election Day. Early in-person voting begins September 18 and will continue until October 31. Governor Northam also stated that Virginia will be using CARES Act funding to ensure that elections officers have adequate PPE and that polling locations are properly sanitized.

Lastly, Governor Northam stressed that due to an unprecedented increase in voting by mail because of COVID-19, **it is very possible that it will take at least a few days for the results of the presidential election to become clear.** While Virginia law allows absentee ballots to be processed before Election Day, this is not the case in other states.

Household Hazardous Waste Event

Saturday, September 19
Harmony Park & Ride
39464 East Colonial Hwy.
Hamilton
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



LOUDOUN COUNTY VIRGINIA **loudoun.gov/hhw**

Next Household Hazardous Waste Event is September 19 in Hamilton

The next Loudoun County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection event is scheduled for Saturday,

September 19, 2020, at the Harmony Park and Ride at 39464 East Colonial Highway, Hamilton, VA 20158, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Loudoun residents are welcome to bring HHW from their homes to the event, free of charge.

What's Accepted

- Typical HHW includes: fluorescent light bulbs, dry-cell batteries, such as alkaline, Ni-Cad, Lithium, rechargeable, etc. (but no automobile batteries), oil-based paint/stain/varnish, paint thinner, mineral spirits, metal polish, rust remover, wood strippers and preservatives, furniture polish, waxes, sealants and solvents, bleach, pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, fertilizer, pool chemicals, muriatic acid, sulfuric acid, ammonia, mercury, mercury thermometers and thermostats, gasoline, expired fuel, auto cleaners and flushes, brake and transmission fluid, windshield washer fluid, fire extinguishers, moth balls, flea and tick products, photographic chemicals and other hobby chemicals.
- Anyone who has an item that is not on this list is encouraged to call the county's Waste Management Division at 703-771-5500 to see if the item is accepted or if an alternate disposal option is needed.
- HHW should only be brought to this location on the scheduled date and event time. Please do not drop off material at any unattended site.

Social Distancing and Other Procedures

- The HHW events include social distancing measures that help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. In accordance with Governor Northam's [Executive Order 63 \(PDF\)](#), members of the public will be required to wear face coverings at the point of service. Because of safety concerns related to various types of hazardous materials, the events feature a drive-through process in which residents are instructed to remain in their vehicles and allow event staff to unload any items accepted for disposal. In order to achieve adequate social distancing between event staff and customers, items must be placed in the rear of the vehicle, such as the trunk of a car, the bed of a pickup truck or the very back of an SUV. Items will not be accepted if in the front seat, back seat or if the driver attempts to hand an item to staff. In order to ensure everyone remains in their vehicle while at the point of service, items must not be in sealed/tied plastic bags. Staff are not allowed to open any plastic bag containing HHW.
- The limit per household is 15 gallons of liquid HHW (container size not to exceed 5-gallon), and 40 pounds of solid HHW (container size not to exceed 5-gallon).
- Participants should be able to provide proof of Loudoun County residency such as a driver's license or utility bill.

What's Not Accepted

- Motor oil, antifreeze, automobile batteries, propane tanks, helium tanks, CO2 tanks/cartridges, drywall compound and oil-based space heaters are not accepted at HHW collection events. These materials are accepted at the Loudoun County Solid Waste Management Facility (County landfill), 21101 Evergreen Mills Road, Leesburg. Visit loudoun.gov/landfill for more information.
- Ammunition, explosives, fireworks, and gun powder are not accepted at the HHW collection events. For information about disposal of these items, contact the [Loudoun County Fire Marshal's Office](#) at 703-737-8600.
- Electronics are not accepted at the HHW collection events. Information on how to properly dispose of unwanted electronics is online at loudoun.gov/electronics.
- Medical waste and medications are not accepted at HHW collection events. Disposal information is available at loudoun.gov/hhw.

Seen any message of hope and inspiration? Do you know someone making a difference in your community? Share with us at zachary.hamis@loudoun.gov and we'll put 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

Like us on Facebook



Juli E. Briskman, Algonkian District Supervisor
[Zachary Harris](#), Legislative Aide
[Rey Cheatham-Banks](#), Chief of Staff

[Algonkian District Supervisor Page](#)
[Email Supervisor Briskman](#)

Have an interesting comment you'd like to share? Want to see someone you know from Algonkian featured? [Email Rey Cheatham-Banks](#)

Supervisor Juli E. Briskman | 1 Harrison Street, S.E., 5th Floor, P.O. Box 7000, Leesburg, VA 20177-7000

[About our service provider](#)

Sent by juli.briskman@loudoun.gov powered by



Try email marketing for free today!

