Happy Election Week, Ashburn District,

Sunday begins the week we’ve all been waiting for, and whatever the outcome, I think we can safely say next week will be historic. If you are not voting by mail-in ballot, you may still vote early in-person at any of four locations in Loudoun County (see the Flyer lead article for locations and hours). **Early, in-person voting is available to you until Saturday at 5:00 PM.** If you have a mail-in ballot in your possession as you read this, Virginia law states that ballots postmarked by Election Day and received by next Friday will count. However, mail service right now is historically slow, so if you are concerned about slow mail, you have several options to ensure your mail-in ballot is counted:

- **Six Things to Know about the November 3, 2020, General Election in Loudoun**
- **Free Medicare Open Enrollment Assistance**
- **“Fall Back”, Change Your Clocks, Check Your Smoke Alarm Batteries**
- **Loudoun County Cold Weather Shelter Opens November 15**
- **Loudoun County Announces Transit System Adjustments Beginning November 2**
- **Loudoun Officials Offer Guidance for a Safe Halloween during COVID-19 Pandemic**
1. Hand-carry your sealed mail-in ballot to a drop box at any Loudoun County Library (except the Law Library) before 5:00 PM on Saturday;
2. Take your sealed mail-in ballot to one of the four early voting locations in Loudoun County (see the lead article) until Saturday at 5:00 PM and place it in a drop box at that location or hand it to an election officer;
3. Take your sealed mail-in ballot to your polling place on Election Day and hand it to an election officer.

And of course, you can always vote at your polling place on Election Day. **Those of you who normally vote at Heritage Church, remember:** your voting location on Tuesday is Broad Run High School. On Tuesday, the polls open at 6:00 AM and close at 7:00 PM. If you are in line to vote at 7:00 PM, you will be allowed to vote.

Do not let anyone intimidate you at the polling place. NO ONE may impede your path as you walk into the polling place.

VOTE!

Mike Turner
Ashburn Supervisor

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**Important Loudoun Headlines**

**Six Things to Know about the November 3, 2020, General Election in Loudoun**

Loudoun County voters will go to the polls Tuesday, November 3, 2020, for a general election. Here are six important things Loudoun County election officials would like voters to know about the election:

1. **Know When to Vote**
   - Polls in Loudoun County will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 3, 2020.
   - Early voting continues in Loudoun through Saturday, October 31. Locations and hours for early voting are online at loudoun.gov/voteearly.
   - Absentee ballots may be dropped off at more than one dozen locations in Loudoun. If returned by mail, ballots must be postmarked no later than November 3. Voters may also drop off their ballots at
the **Office of Elections and Voter Registration** (750 Miller Drive SE, Leesburg) or polling place up to 7:00 p.m. on November 3.

2. **Know Where to Vote**
Most voters will cast their ballots at their normal polling location on Election Day. However, there are some changes that will affect the location of in-person voting at three precincts on November 3.

- **Precinct 819 – Heritage Church** in the Ashburn Election District has been moved to Broad Run High School, 21670 Ashburn Road.

- **Precinct 118 – Moorefield** in the Dulles Election District has been moved to Briar Woods High School, 22525 Belmont Ridge Road.

- **Precinct 401 - West Lovettsville** in the Catoctin Election District is returning to its original location of the Lovettsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Station, 12837 Berlin Turnpike.

Anyone who is not sure about where to vote may check their voter registration card or look up their polling place and related information online at [vote.elections.virginia.gov](http://vote.elections.virginia.gov). A list of polling places in Loudoun is available at [loudoun.gov/polls](http://loudoun.gov/polls).

3. **Bring Identification and Face Covering; Observe Social Distancing**
Voters are required to show an acceptable form of identification at their precinct. Acceptable forms of ID include a Virginia DMV-issued driver’s license, voter registration card, U.S. passport, student ID from a college or university located in Virginia, government-issued ID or an employer-issued ID.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, voters will be required to wear a face covering when entering the polling place. Also, due to social distancing measures in place, voting may take longer than usual, so voters should plan accordingly.

4. **Know What to Do if You Change Your Mind about Voting Absentee**
Voters who have requested and received an absentee ballot by mail, but who then change their mind and want to vote in person, must bring the ballot with them to the polling place in order to vote. This will likely also cause a longer-than-normal wait time for the voter because of the process involved in surrendering the ballot.

5. **Know Who and What is on the Ballot**
Offices on the November 3 ballot include president and vice president of the United States, members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, Leesburg mayor and town council, Hillsboro mayor and town council, Round Hill town council, Virginia constitutional amendments and Loudoun County bond questions. Sample ballots are online at [loudoun.gov/NovemberElection](http://loudoun.gov/NovemberElection).
6. Stay Informed

- Text LCVOTES to 888777 to receive text alerts from the Loudoun County Office of Elections and Voter Registration or sign up for the Election Update category through Alert Loudoun, the county’s email and text notification system.

- Follow the Office of Elections and Voter Registration on Facebook and Twitter. Loudoun County Government also posts general information on Facebook and Twitter.

- Get election results: Preliminary results of voting both in Loudoun County and statewide will be available at loudoun.gov/electionresults following the closing of the polls at 7:00 p.m. on election night.

Free Medicare Open Enrollment Assistance

Need help during Medicare Open Enrollment? The Loudoun County Area Agency on Aging VICAP counselors are here to help (virtually)! Agency staff trained in the Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program will work with you to help you find better coverage with lower premiums and copays.

Open enrollment runs from October 15 to December 7, 2020. The deadline to submit your Part D worksheet to VICAP counselors is November 8. Part D worksheets are available at Loudoun County senior centers, online at loudoun.gov/aaa or by calling 703-737-8036.

“Fall Back”, Change Your Clocks, Check Your Smoke Alarm Batteries
Sunday, November 1st, 2020, we “Fall Back” and set our clocks back one hour to Eastern Standard Time. As we do, the Loudoun County Combined Fire and Rescue System reminds citizens to use this opportunity to check the batteries in your smoke alarms.

A properly installed and maintained smoke alarm can alert you and your family to a fire 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Whether you’re awake or asleep, a working smoke alarm is constantly on alert, scanning the air for smoke. A smoke alarm with a dead or missing battery is the same as having no smoke alarm at all!

Remember, smoke alarms must be maintained! All smoke alarms should be tested monthly and maintained by replacing the batteries if necessary and cleaning off any dust and debris. Standard battery operated (9 volt) smoke alarms should have their batteries replaced yearly. Be sure to check the manufacturer’s expiration date and specifications on the label located on the back of the alarm. Whether hardwired or battery driven, ALL smoke alarms should be completely replaced every ten years!

Loudoun County Fire and Rescue offers free home safety and smoke alarm assessments to all Loudoun County residents. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call the department hotline 703-737-8093 or visit loudoun.gov/smokealarms.

In addition to regular testing and maintenance of your smoke alarms, develop and practice a home escape plan so that everyone knows what to do if a smoke alarm sounds. To learn about creating a home escape plan and get more fire safety information, visit loudoun.gov/fire or call Lisa Braun, Public Education Manager, at 571-258-3222.

Loudoun County Cold Weather Shelter Opens November 15
The Loudoun County Cold Weather Shelter will open Sunday, November 15, 2020, for adults in the community who are experiencing a housing crisis resulting in homelessness. The shelter, which provides a warm indoor sleeping environment, meals and shower facilities, will be open 7:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m., seven nights a week through March 31, 2021.

The Cold Weather Shelter will be located at the Loudoun Homeless Services Center, 19520 Meadowview Court in Leesburg. A photo ID will be required for admittance to the shelter. Personal bags and belongings must be limited; all bags will be searched and stored in a locked room for security during the night.

Additionally, the following COVID-19 safety measures will be required for admittance to the shelter:

- **Face coverings:** A face covering will be provided for anyone who does not have one.
- **Temperature checks:** Temperatures will be taken with a no-contact thermometer.
- **COVID-19 symptom screening:** Questionnaires will be administered verbally by shelter staff.

The county will provide free transportation to the shelter with shuttle buses departing nightly at the times and locations below. Personal bags and belongings must be limited and no bicycles will be allowed. Face coverings, temperature checks and COVID-19 symptom screenings will be required to board the bus.

- 5:00 p.m. – William Watters House, 22365 Enterprise Street, Sterling (near Loudoun County Transit Local Bus Route 82 bus stop)
- 6:00 p.m. – Douglass Community Center, 405 East Market Street, Leesburg

On weekends and holidays, the county will also provide a morning shuttle drop-off from the shelter to each of the stops noted above.

The shelter is operated by Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas under a contract with Loudoun County. The shuttle bus transportation is operated by ECHO under a contract with Loudoun County.

More information about services available to those experiencing homelessness in Loudoun County may be found at [loudoun.gov/CoC](http://loudoun.gov/CoC) or by calling 703-777-0420.
Loudoun County Announces Transit System Adjustments Beginning November 2

Loudoun County Transit will modify Commuter Bus and Metro Connection Bus services beginning Monday, November 2, 2020. Due to changes in passenger demands, the number of trips on some existing routes will be reduced, while new Commuter Bus routes will be added to include stops at Dulles South (Stone Ridge II) and East Gate Park and Ride lots. Details on the service adjustments are available online at loudoun.gov/buschanges and below:

**New Routes**

- New Commuter Bus routes stopping at the Dulles South (Stone Ridge II) and East Gate Park and Ride lots will be added as follows:
  - Route 281: two trips in the morning from Loudoun to Washington, D.C.
  - Route 282: two trips in the morning from Loudoun to Rosslyn, the Pentagon and Crystal City.
  - Route 681: two trips in the afternoon from Washington, D.C. to Loudoun
  - Route 682: two trips in the afternoon from Crystal City, the Pentagon and Rosslyn to Loudoun.

**Reduced Routes**

- Commuter Bus routes stopping at the Leesburg Park and Ride lot and Dulles North Transit Center will be reduced as follows:
  - Route 481: from nine to five trips in the morning from Loudoun to Washington, D.C. at newly scheduled times.
  - Route 482: from nine to five trips in the morning from Loudoun to Rosslyn, the Pentagon and Crystal City.
  - Route 881: from nine to five trips in the afternoon from Washington, D.C. to Loudoun at newly scheduled times.
  - Route 882: from nine to six trips in the afternoon from Crystal City, the Pentagon and Rosslyn to Loudoun.
Metro Connection Bus routes stopping at the Purcellville Park and Ride lot and the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station will be reduced as follows:
- Route 931: from nine to three trips in the morning, and from six to two trips in the afternoon at newly scheduled times.
- Routes 932: from six to two trips in the morning, and from nine to three trips in the afternoon at newly scheduled times.

Service Resuming
- Metro Connection Bus Routes 901 and 902 will resume service to and from the West Falls Church Metrorail station at newly scheduled times. Routes 901 and 902 will no longer service Ballston Metrorail Station as this stop was provided temporarily to accommodate the recently completed Metrorail Platform Improvement project.

Loudoun County Transit has made operational changes following the guidance of local, state and national health authorities to reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure on the system’s buses. These changes include face coverings and physical distancing requirements and more frequent bus cleanings. To allow for physical distancing on buses, seating capacity has been reduced to 50%. For more information, visit loudoun.gov/covid19transit.

To further reduce the risk of exposure, Loudoun Transit recommends that riders follow the CDC guidelines to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, such as avoiding close contact with people who are sick, staying home when sick, avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth, and properly washing your hands frequently. Visit loudoun.gov/coronavirus for additional information and resources.

Over the coming weeks, Loudoun County Transit will continue to monitor ridership and services for possible additional changes. Details on service changes as well as current schedules may be found at loudoun.gov/buschanges.

Loudoun Officials Offer Guidance for a Safe Halloween during COVID-19 Pandemic
Loudoun County officials recommend that residents do not engage in traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating this Halloween or other activities that risk transmission of COVID-19.

“We all have a role in making Halloween as safe as possible this year by taking precautions that limit the spread of COVID-19 in our community,” said Loudoun County Health Director Dr. David Goodfriend. “We encourage parents and anyone planning to participate in Halloween-related events to take actions to protect themselves, their children and others from the virus that causes this disease.”

Halloween activities that are considered **high-risk** and are **not recommended** include:

- Traditional trick-or-treating where treats are handed to children who go door to door.
- Trick-or-treating at houses where individuals are not wearing a face covering and where 6 feet of physical distance is not maintained between individuals.
- Trunk-or-treating where treats are handed out from trunks of cars lined up in large parking lots.
- Events that involve large gatherings, such as crowded costume parties held indoors and any events where social distancing is difficult to maintain.
- Indoor haunted houses where people may be crowded together and screaming.

For those who are planning to participate in Halloween events, officials urge these precautions:

- Stay home and away from others when sick.
- Stay at least 6 feet from others at all times.
- Wash your hands before and during trick-or-treating or handing out candy. Use hand sanitizer when soap and water aren’t available.
- Wear a cloth face covering. Halloween masks may not fit snugly against the face and may not cover the nose and mouth. Halloween masks with gaps and holes do not protect against inhaling respiratory droplets from other people. Wearing a cloth face covering under a Halloween mask may make it hard to breathe and is not recommended.
- If you choose to offer candy, hand out candy outside and from a distance. Consider setting up a table and placing individually-wrapped treats so that multiple people do not have to reach into the same bowl. For trunk-or-treating, create distance between cars by parking in every other space.
In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends staying home and away from others when sick. Anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and has not met the criteria for when it is safe to be around others, has COVID-19 symptoms or who has been in recent contact with someone with the disease should not participate in Halloween activities this year.

The Health Department considers haunted houses to be particularly risky for spreading COVID-19 because they typically involve people screaming, which is known to increase the production of respiratory droplets. Haunted houses that choose to operate must strictly follow Phase 3 Guidelines for Entertainment and Public Amusement settings (PDF).

For more detailed information, including suggestions for low-risk Halloween activities for families, visit loudoun.gov/safehalloween.

Resources

**Report a road problem**

VDOT created an easy to use online form to report unsafe and hazardous road conditions. Similarly, work requests for state-maintained roads can also be made here.

**Paving Schedule**

VDOT reports what roads will be paved during the fiscal year and updates their website with progress updates.

Find VDOT’s Paving Schedule here.
Residential Traffic Calming Guide

Loudoun County’s Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure (DTCI) manages an eight-phase process to address traffic calming, which considers residents’ concerns regarding speeding, safety and overall quality of life on publicly-maintained residential streets.

Learn more here.

Who Maintains my Street?

To identify which entity responsible for maintaining your road/street, Loudoun County made an online color coded mapping system which helps residents determine who to contact when work needs to be done.

View this map here.

VDOT 511

511 offers real-time traffic info. Anytime you need it, anywhere you are.

More information on VDOT 511 can be found here.

Online Process for Building Permits, Land Development Applications

Homeowners and residential contractors can submit their completed application form and supporting documentation, including drawings and plats, in PDF format for most residential construction projects to the Department of Building and Development online. More information about the online submission process and requirements is available here.
COVID19 Information

Stay informed about COVID19:

- Maps & GIS Resources Relevant to the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Virtual COVID19 Symptom Checker
- Steps to Slow the Spread of COVID-19
- Recent Executive Orders from Virginia Governor Ralph Northam
- View all Covid19 updates from Loudoun County
- Information about COVID-19 and LCPS operations
- Sign up for updates in Notify Me, Blogs category
- CDC Guidance on COVID19
- How to help community organizations responding to COVID-19
- Loudoun County Online Application for Rent Assistance Program

Was this Newsletter forwarded to you?

If this email was forwarded to you and you would like to receive news and updates from Ashburn Supervisor Mike Turner, Sign Up for the Ashburn-Lansdowne Flyer here!

Contact my Office

Because your voice plays such a vital role in the decision-making process, a critical role for me as your county representative is to provide you with the necessary facts to keep you informed about any and all issues affecting you or your family’s quality of life. Please don’t hesitate to contact me directly or my staff.

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