REMINDER: Loudoun Seeks Comments about Board of Supervisors’ Public Input Process

Loudoun County is seeking input from the community concerning the process for providing public comment to the Board of Supervisors.

Members of the public are invited to fill out a brief online survey to answer questions about the current process for providing comments to the Board, including questions about the advance sign-up procedure and what their preferred language to provide comments would be. The survey results will be used by the Board as it considers changes to its Rules of Order (PDF) related to the procedures for accepting public comment in languages other than English during Board meetings.

- Take the online survey in English
- Take the online survey in Spanish
Changes previously considered by the Board would allow speakers who wish to provide comments in a language other than English to use the allotted time to deliver comments in a language other than English and provide the Board with a transcript of the comments or allocate the full time to an interpreter to deliver comments in English on the commenters’ behalf.

The survey will be active through close of business Monday, September 12, 2022. To request the survey in a language other than English or Spanish, email Public Affairs and Communications.

Current Public Input Process

The Board of Supervisors encourages people to sign up to speak during public comment periods at its meetings. Members of the public are typically given at least two minutes to speak. Speakers have the option to deliver comments in person or remotely.

Details on the current procedures for public comment at Board meetings may be found online at loudoun.gov/signuptospeak.

Loudoun Offers Grants Management Training Opportunities for Nonprofits

Loudoun County is offering professional development opportunities for local nonprofit organizations on multiple dates in October and November 2022. The free training, titled Grants Management Best Practices Series, will highlight resources and tools to help organizations successfully apply for and implement federal and state grants.

The county’s informational and educational series of in-person and online training is designed to help organizations learn more about government grant opportunities beyond those offered by the county, receive technical assistance
with federal grants, determine American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) eligibility and compliance, and receive guidance on performance and fiscal management. Peer organizations and other local grant funding providers will be in attendance to facilitate the training.

Course Descriptions & Registration

To register in advance for the county’s training, visit loudoun.gov/granttraining and submit the online form. The virtual sessions can accommodate registrations up to the day of the training. The deadline for the October 27, 2022, in-person training is close of business October 21, 2022.

The county’s website also lists detailed information about each training. The current schedule for the training series includes the following in-person and virtual sessions:

- **County Grants Announcement & ARPA Eligibility and Compliance:** Thursday, October 6, 2022, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., Virtual

- **Prospecting: Is Government Funding Right for You?:** Thursday, October 13, 2022, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., Virtual

- **Demystifying Federal Grant Opportunities:** Thursday, October 27, 2022, 10:00 – Noon, Loudoun County Government Center (1 Harrison St. SE, Leesburg)

- **Performance & Fiscal Management Across Diverse Funding Sources:** Monday, November 7, 2022, 10:00 – Noon; Virtual

More Information

The sessions listed above are the first in a series of professional development opportunities that will continue to be offered by the county in the coming months, with the next sessions to be offered in 2023. The in-person and virtual training opportunities lasting between 90 minutes and two hours will continue to focus on helping nonprofits and their staff to develop stronger grant applications; hone the skills and knowledge needed to find, apply for and receive grants; learn from subject matter experts and their peers; and receive technical assistance on a broad range of topics.
Guilford Elementary School Field Trip Fundraiser

The Guilford Elementary School PTA is raising money to take students on field trip to the historic Jamestown settlement.

For anyone interested in donating, please see the information below from the fundraiser GoFundMe page:

"Growing up, FIELD TRIP DAY was one of the best days of the year. Those of us that were fortunate enough to experience a field trip often have lasting memories of invaluable and fun, hands-on experiences.

While school funds cover some field trip costs, parents & families are often required to contribute money or PTA/PTO organizations can cover the cost of field trips.

I work at a Title I elementary school in one of the richest school districts in the U.S, Loudoun County Public Schools. Most of our county schools draw from affluent neighborhoods and receive generous funds from PTA /PTO. The GUILFORD community is made up of the hardest working and most appreciative families I've ever met. Education is a priority, but the cost of a field trip competes with rent, utilities, and putting food on the table.

Many 4th grade classes in the county take a day trip to Jamestown, Virginia to supplement classroom lessons in Virginia History. Many county residents can afford to pay $100 for their child's field trip, our families do not have that luxury.

Please help raise funds to take our students to Jamestown and enhance their understanding of colonial life in the First Settlement with invaluable hands-on experiences."
In recognition of September as National Recovery Month, Loudoun County is promoting several activities designed to increase public awareness surrounding mental health and addiction recovery.

**Loudoun Recovery Fest**

Loudoun County, in partnership with the Prevention Alliance of Loudoun (PAL) and Loudoun Serenity House, will host the second annual Loudoun Recovery Fest on **Saturday, September 10, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at Algonkian Regional Park, 47001 Fairway Drive, Shelter #1, in Sterling.

The Loudoun Recovery Fest is free and open to everyone of all ages. The event will feature food, drinks, raffle prizes and a variety of wellness vendors to offer members of the community the opportunity to learn about and connect with resources.

Some of the participating agencies, organizations and vendors include:

- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Celebrate Recovery
- Chris Atwood Foundation
- Five Peaks Yoga
- Loudoun County Department of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Developmental Services
- Loudoun County Public Schools
- Loudoun County Sheriff’s Office
- Loudoun Serenity House
- NAR-Anon
- Narcotics Anonymous
Prevention Alliance of Loudoun

PAL is a coalition of youth, parents, Loudoun County agencies, faith-based organizations and other community stakeholders dedicated to mental health awareness and substance misuse prevention efforts.

For more information on PAL, visit loudoun.gov/mhsadsprevention or send an email.

Loudoun Broadband Alliance Releases Affordability Report

The Loudoun Broadband Alliance found that internet affordability programs are underutilized in Loudoun County in a report published Tuesday.

The report, “Making Broadband Affordable for Loudoun County Residents,” found that although about 3.2% of Loudoun households fall below the federal poverty level, only 1% of households are enrolled in the Affordable Connectivity Program, a federal program to offer low-cost or free internet service.

The report also notes that figure underreports the number of eligible households not taking advantage of the program, since they are eligible if they make up to twice the poverty income level, or up to $55,500 for a family of four. The report also notes that students in some lower-income households struggled to complete online schoolwork during the COVID-19 pandemic, creating a “homework gap.”

The FCC Affordable Connectivity Program

The Federal Communications Commission’s Affordable Connectivity Program provides up to $30 per month toward internet service for eligible households,
and major internet service providers in Loudoun including AT&T, Comcast, and Verizon offer a broadband internet plan for $30 or less, making internet free to households in the program.

Households also qualify for the program if a family member received a Federal Pell Grant in the current award year or participate in the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program; federal public housing assistance; Supplemental Security Income; the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children; veterans’ pension or survivor benefits; Lifeline; or Medicaid.

The Loudoun Broadband Alliance plans to partner with organizations in Loudoun that work directly with households most likely to be eligible for the program, to promote enrollment and find other solutions for households that still struggle to afford broadband internet.

Learn more about the Loudoun Broadband Alliance and find the report at loudounbroadbandalliance.org. Get more information about the Affordable Connectivity Program and apply online at affordableconnectivity.gov.

Source: Read the Full Article on Loudoun Now

---

**What is PAXLOVID? COVID-19 Treatments and Medications**

**Treating COVID-19**

If you test positive and are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19, treatments are available that can reduce your chances of being hospitalized or dying from the disease. Medications to treat COVID-19 must be prescribed
by a healthcare provider and started as soon as possible after diagnosis to be effective. Contact a healthcare provider right away to determine if you are eligible for treatment, even if your symptoms are mild right now.

**Don’t delay: Treatment must be started within days of when you first develop symptoms to be effective.**

A healthcare provider will help decide which treatment, if any, is right for you. Check with your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you are taking other medications to make sure the COVID-19 treatments can be safely taken at the same time.

**Types of Treatments**

The FDA has authorized certain antiviral medications and monoclonal antibodies to treat mild to moderate COVID-19 in people who are more likely to get very sick.

- **Antiviral treatments** target specific parts of the virus to stop it from multiplying in the body, helping to prevent severe illness and death.
- **Monoclonal antibodies** help the immune system recognize and respond more effectively to the virus.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) provides [COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/treatment-guidelines/index.html) for healthcare providers to help them work with their patients and determine the best treatment options for them. Several options are available for treating COVID-19 at home or in an outpatient setting.

Some treatments might have side effects or interact with other medications you are taking. Ask a healthcare provider if medications to treat COVID-19 are right for you. If you don’t have a healthcare provider, visit a [Test to Treat location](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/test-to-treat.html) or contact your local community health center or health department.

If you are hospitalized, your healthcare provider might use other types of treatments, depending on how sick you are. These could include medications to treat the virus, reduce an overactive immune response, or treat COVID-19 complications.
LCPS Providing Free Online Tutoring Through Tutor.com

LCPS recently announce that it has partnered with Tutor.com to provide access to a free, online tutoring service to all LCPS students. Tutor.com, which is a service of the Princeton Review, offers one-on-one access to tutors in more than 200 subjects, including many in Spanish, and for all grade levels, 24 hours a day.

Access to help, whether during the school day or around the homework table, is near-immediate, with students connecting to tutors through their Schoology accounts within about a minute. There is no limit to the number of times a student from LCPS can connect with a tutor. And the service is 100% free.

“We believe that all students should be able to access additional support when they need it, therefore, we are pleased to be able to offer this service to our students at no cost,” said Dr. Ashley Ellis, deputy superintendent of instruction. “We are offering this service because students should have access to the tools they need to be successful in school. By partnering with Tutor.com, we are further able to fulfill the mission of our strategic plan and empower our students to achieve their best.”

Tutoring sessions take place in an interactive online classroom, which includes whiteboard, text and coding screens, graph paper and graphing calculator, and a wide range of tools. Students can engage with their tutors via a two-way text-chat or voice to allow learners of all ages to receive help in a format that is most comfortable for them. All of Tutor.com’s tutors are vetted by a rigorous application process that tests for expert-level subject knowledge and effective tutoring methodology. Online tutors also complete an extensive background check. All classroom sessions are recorded and monitored by Tutor Management.

Students may also drop off their written work and receive detailed feedback from a tutor within a day. The platform also provides access to self-guided
resources, including Advanced Placement (AP) videos and SAT/ACT Essentials courses from the Princeton Review.

More information about Tutor.com can be found on LCPS’ webpage.

---

**Save the Date: Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration**

Save the date for New Virginia Majority Loudoun’s Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration on Saturday, September 17th from 2:30 - 4:30 pm.

This will be a cultural event to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, highlighting the contributions of the Hispanic community to Loudoun County and Northern Virginia. The community will come together with New Virginia Majority members, supporters, and elected officials to celebrate Hispanic culture and to recognize the challenges that the Hispanic community is facing.

The celebration will take place at the Sterling Community Center gymnasium, located at 120 Enterprise St, Sterling, VA 20164.

---

**Important Information for the November 8, 2022, General Election**
Important Dates

Voter Registration Deadlines

- In-person - Monday, October 17, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.
- By-Mail - Postmarked no later than Monday, October 17, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

Early and Absentee Voting

- Early voting opens - Friday, September 23, 2022
- Last day to request a ballot be mailed to you - Friday, October 28, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.
- Last day to Vote Early in-person - Saturday, November 5, 2022
- [Locations, dates and hours for early voting.](#)

Three Ways to Vote: Pick the Option that Works Best for You

All registered voters in Virginia now have the option to vote at home, vote early, or vote on election day. No excuses are required no matter your choice. Just click on the underlined title of the voting option you would like to visit that page for more information.

- Vote at Home: We’ll mail your ballot and important information to you. You’ll fill it out following the instructions enclosed, and send it back. [Learn more about absentee voting.](#)
- Vote Early: Early voting will be available for all registered Loudoun County voters at the Office of Elections in Leesburg starting 45 days before the election and additional early voting centers in the final weeks before the election. There is no pre-application required to
vote early in person, simply check the locations, dates, and times and go vote when it's most convenient for you!

- View details on locations, dates, and hours for early voting.
- Vote on Election Day: Polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
  - Learn more about voting on election day.

What's on Your Ballot?

- Sample ballots can be found here.
- Voters are encouraged to double-check their voting precinct at www.vote.virginia.gov to ensure they know their precinct number and are viewing the correct ballot.

---

**VCE Loudoun Master Gardener Information Meeting – September 22**

Are you interested in becoming a VCE Loudoun Master Gardener?

VCE Loudoun Master Gardeners are hosting their annual Information Meeting in September in anticipation of opening their application portal.

VCE Loudoun Master Gardeners are trained volunteer educators. Working with Loudoun County communities, their mission is to encourage and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices through sustainable landscape management education and training. These volunteers have received extensive training under the auspices of Virginia Tech and the VCE Loudoun office to provide unbiased research-based horticultural information to the community.

Master Gardener Information Meeting – Loudoun County
Thursday, September 22 @ 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Event
Registration is Required: [Register here](#).

Learn more about the VCE Loudoun Master Gardener Training Requirements.

For training and application questions, [email Loudoun Master Gardeners](#).

---

**Workforce Resource Center Offers Career Assistance During Workforce Development Month**

During September — Workforce Development Month — the Loudoun Workforce Resource Center will feature special virtual and in-person events at no cost for job seekers and people who are considering changing careers.

The in-person events will take place at the Workforce Resource Center at 705 E. Market Street, Suite E in Leesburg and at several Loudoun County Public Library branches.

Visit [loudoun.gov/workforcemonth](http://loudoun.gov/workforcemonth) for detailed information about each event and how to register.

Events will include, but are not limited to:

**How to Job Search for Remote Work**
- Monday, September 12, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., Virtual

**Let’s Go to Work! (Two sessions)**
- Tuesday, September 13, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m., Virtual
- Tuesday, September 13, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m., Workforce Resource Center (Spanish language interpretation available)
Resumes and Cover Letters: Make Yours Stand Out (Three sessions)
- Wednesday, September 14, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Sterling Library, 22330 S. Sterling Blvd, Suite A117, Sterling
- Tuesday, September 20, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Rust Library, 380 Old Waterford Road NW, Leesburg
- Tuesday, September 27, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Gum Spring Library, 24600 Millstream Drive, Stone Ridge

10 Crucial Steps for Success in IT
- Wednesday, September 14, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m., Virtual

Top 10 Reasons You Didn’t Get Hired
- Thursday, September 15, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., Virtual

Virtual Job Fair
- Saturday, September 17, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Virtual

LinkedIn Profile Headshot Photography (by appointment only – two sessions)
- Monday, September 19, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Workforce Resource Center
- Tuesday, September 20, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Workforce Resource Center

The full list of events and programs is available online at loudoun.gov/wrc.