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# All About Algonkian



**Juli E. Briskman** | Algonkian District Supervisor



## From Richmond

Over the past few days, the governor has announced a number of initiatives to assist during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The state will make available funding to increase the availability of child care services for essential personnel. Under the CARES Act, an additional \$70 million in funding will provide incentive grants to child care providers that are open, from now through the end of June. The funding will also eliminate co-payments through June for low-income, working families who receive federal child care subsidy dollars and prepare schools to act as emergency child care centers, where needed.

Governor Northam also extended business closures an for additional two weeks, until May 8. "As we have seen from our data and models, social distancing is working, and we are slowing the spread of this virus," said Governor Northam. "But it is too early to let up. By extending this order to keep certain businesses closed or restricted, we can continue to evaluate the situation and plan for how to eventually ease restrictions so that our businesses may operate without endangering public health."

A statewide collaboration with the Virginia Department of Health was announced to help recruit medical and non-medical volunteers for the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), a force of volunteers who support the community during a public health emergency. Local units are comprised of teams of medical and public health professionals who, along with community members, volunteer their time, skills, and expertise to support ongoing public health initiatives.

Read all of the Governor's press releases [here](#).

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## School Updates



### Meal Delivery

Students in need of meal delivery can access Here Comes the Bus®, an easy-to-use mobile app and website that uses GPS tracking for meal deliveries. Students will be assigned to the meal stop closest to their home address. Families will see the stop as well as when the bus is coming into the Notification Radius. All students in the county have been assigned a meal stop.

During the meal delivery period, parents will receive notification that the bus is entering the zone around their meal stop depending on your choice of notification (email and/or text). Please monitor the bus in the app or website as you may not receive arrival notification via push or email. Once a run has been completed, the bus will not be visible in the app or webpage.

Once school is back in session, the GPS tracking information will allow parents to see when their child's bus is arriving.

The program is available in English, Spanish and French. The mobile app can be downloaded from Google Play or the App Store. To sign up for Here Comes the Bus®, you will need to know your student's ID number and school code which is 79902.

To get started, [click here](#) for a Help Guide. You can also visit [LCPS.ORG/HereComesTheBus](http://LCPS.ORG/HereComesTheBus) for additional educational materials.

### Virtual Learning

The Virginia Department of Education's existing online learning system is being expanded to allow every teacher in the Commonwealth to host virtual classes while schools are closed due to the coronavirus pandemic. These resources include a platform that enables all Virginia public school teachers to share lessons and activities with their students through June 30.

A comprehensive list of resources, guidance, and support documents for K-12 public schools in Virginia during the COVID-19 school closures is available [here](#).

[FAQs](#).

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## Loudoun County Allocates Funding for Emergency Food Assistance Programs

Loudoun County is allocating \$150,000 for emergency food assistance programs in response to the increased need caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board of Supervisors approved the funding to help local food assistance providers that serve Loudoun individuals and families.

In addition to approving the allocation of funds, the Board established criteria for organizations to be eligible for emergency funding. They must be:

- Located in Loudoun County.
- A 501(c)(3) nonprofit or a religious institution.
- Provide food assistance on at least a bi-weekly basis to Loudoun residents.
- Follow established federal food safety protocols.

Applicants also will be asked to supply documentation of the costs per client in addition to information about their typical service level prior to the pandemic and their current level of service.

The Board directed the Department of Finance and Budget to develop and oversee the process for qualifying food assistance sites to request funding and to ensure that there is equitable distribution of funding among the organizations.

To apply, food assistance programs should complete and submit the [online application](#).

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## Steps to Slow the Spread of Coronavirus

[loudoun.gov/coronavirus](https://loudoun.gov/coronavirus)

Loudoun County has published a guide to stop the spread of COVID-19. The guide urges residents to self-monitor and remain vigilant in taking the necessary steps to care for themselves, family, and the community. The guide includes symptoms, self-care tips, and contact information.

You can download the guide [here](#).

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](https://www.loudoun.gov/CoronaVirus)

Call: (703) 737-8300

Email: [Health@Loudoun.gov](mailto:Health@Loudoun.gov)

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