



# All About Algonkian

Juli E. Briskman | Algonkian District Supervisor



## COVID-19 Update

COVID19 NUMBERS	
VIRGINIA	LOUDOUN
25,070	1,195
3,300	116
850	30

### Supervisor Briskman's Statement on Phase I Reopening

I am pleased that Governor Ralph Northam has agreed to work with Northern Virginia localities on a delayed approach to reopening the

region and to improve localized metrics used in making these decisions.

Despite the devastating effect on our economy, I fully support Loudoun's participation in the request to the Governor to delay Phase 1 reopening in the Northern Virginia Region (see section below).

While the state overall may be meeting the criteria for Phase 1 reopening by May 15, including a 14-day downward trend in cases and hospitalizations in addition to sustained hospital capacity, data indicates that the NOVA region does not meet Governor Northam's requirements or those issued by the federal government outlined here: [Opening Up America Again](#).

According to an analysis by the region's five health directors, our region fails to meet these criteria. This is significant as Northern Virginia represents half of the Commonwealth's COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths. With 2.5 million residents, our region represents a third of Virginia's population and NOVA's positive cases are also growing at a much faster rate than the rest of the state.

Confidence in public health is a foundation for restoring commerce. While statewide metrics are useful to gauge the success of public health policies, the size of our region and our connectedness to the larger Metro Washington area demands we act with respect to this larger population and our connectivity. Thus, I support the letter sent yesterday by the executives of Northern Virginia's five largest jurisdictions stating that "any changes to current policies be guided by what is occurring in our region."

Additionally, through our membership on the Council of Governments Board of Directors, Loudoun County committed to act regionally in response to this crisis and to make decisions based on science and data. As a voting member on the COG Board, I intend to stand by that commitment. With 700,000 commuters crossing jurisdictional boundaries every day, it is incumbent upon us to implement a regional strategy. 100,000 of those workers leave Loudoun to work elsewhere and could bring infection back to our county. Also, 67,000 workers commute into Loudoun on a normal work day and could spread the infection from other jurisdictions to our residents.

By reopening too soon, Loudoun risks a sudden surge in COVID-19 cases that would make it even more difficult to meet the criteria set forth by the federal government and the governor. This would put further strain on our health care system, the systems of our regional partners and could set the county and our region back several steps back from our goal of getting back to a new normal and resuming commerce. By delaying Phase 1 in Northern Virginia, we hopefully can avoid the need for another shutdown and additional damage to our local businesses.

These are incredibly challenging times, but the perseverance shown by Loudoun's residents over the past few months indicates that we will get through this pandemic stronger than before, if we make decisions that are thoughtful and deliberate.



## Mayors and Chairs of Northern Virginia Counties Send Joint Letter to Governor Northam

Loudoun County Chair Phyllis Randall, along with leaders from Arlington, Fairfax, Prince William and Alexandria, sent a joint letter to Governor Northam. The letter is making a recommendation to the Governor to allow Northern Virginia jurisdictions to delay Phase I reopening. You can read the letter [here](#).



## Free Food Drive Thru in Sterling

Women Giving Back is hosting a free food drive thru in Sterling at 20 Export Drive every Saturday. The hours are 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and no referral is needed.



## Loudoun County Disperses \$1.4 Million of Small Business Relief

Loudoun Economic Development has completed the random selections for more than 200 COVID-19 Business Interruption Fund grants, totaling nearly \$1.4 million. The fund was created by the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors on April 21, and started with \$1.15 million diverted from business incentive funding. The Loudoun Economic Development Authority added \$250,000 to aid dozens of more businesses.

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The grants, which range between \$5,000 and \$10,000 depending on the number of employees, will be dispersed to businesses starting next week. Funding will reach all corners of Loudoun County and help support business operations across a wide swath of Loudoun's industries. A full list of grant recipients can be found at LoudounBusinessFund.org.

The Business Interruption Fund required all applicants to document and demonstrate less than \$2.5 million in annual revenue, at least a 25% loss in revenue that can be attributed to COVID-19, and that businesses be appropriately licensed and operational in Loudoun County.



## Households to Receive Postcards on Steps to Slow the Spread

Every household in Loudoun County, including those in the incorporated towns, will be receiving important COVID-19 information by mail in the next few days. The county encourages residents to look for a postcard from Loudoun County in the mail, read it, and keep it as a reference guide.

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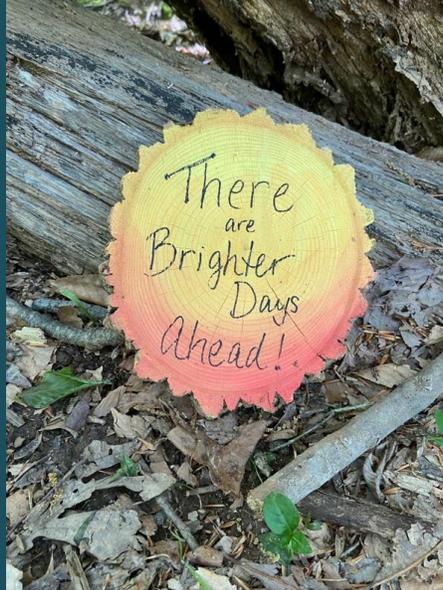
The postcard includes important information to help protect yourself and your family, including reminding all residents to take the following actions:

- Social distance – stay at least 6 feet apart from others.
- Wash your hands and avoid touching your face.
- Wear a cloth face covering in public.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes.
- Stay home to the greatest extent possible.
- Self-isolate if you are sick.
- Let your close contacts know if you are sick so they can self-quarantine.

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Enjoy these inspirational scenes spotted in Algonkian. Please share any messages of hope you see. Submissions may be sent to Zachary Harris at [zachary.harris@loudoun.gov](mailto:zachary.harris@loudoun.gov) and we'll share them in our updates and newsletter.





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

Call: (703) 737-8300

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

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