



# All About Algonkian



Juli E. Briskman | Algonkian District Supervisor



## COVID-19 Update

COVID 19 NUMBERS	
VIRGINIA	LOUDOUN
34,950	1,807
4,145	149
1,136	51

### LCPS Announces Reopening Scenarios

**Note:** Beginning May 26, COVID-19 Updates will be issued every Tuesday and Thursday. This coincides with changes to the Governor's briefing schedule.

Looking ahead, LCPS, under the leadership of the School Board, is planning how we will continue to fulfill our educational mission during the 2020-2021 school year, even in the face of continued uncertainty and challenges. They are preparing for the 2020-2021 school year with multiple COVID-19 scenarios in mind. Importantly, decisions regarding when and how to reopen school, and whether to extend distance learning will be condition-based, not time-based.

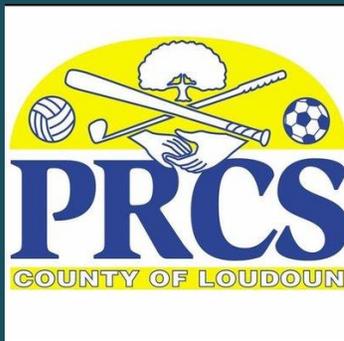
Predefined, science-based metrics and re-opening metrics articulated by public health officials and other government authorities will guide decisions. This approach can reassure community members who recognize that decisions must be fact-based and not driven by arbitrary timelines or unfounded fears.

LCPS is planning for three scenarios, as well as many possible variations of each:

- **Reopen schools with 100% in-person learning:** In-person learning in this scenario would occur without physical distancing or other public health mitigation strategies.

- **Reopen schools with a combination of in-person and distance learning:** In-person learning would occur with physical distancing and other public health mitigation strategies.
- **Extend distance learning without in-person learning:** Distance learning would be extended with a revised approach, building on the strengths of the current distance learning approach and making good use of opportunities for improvement.

LCPS also recognizes that after starting the 2020-2021 school year in one scenario, they need to be agile enough to shift back and forth among scenarios, if necessitated by conditions.



## PRCS Postpones Fourth of July Celebrations

The Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) will postpone all 4<sup>th</sup> of July events this year in accordance with the recommendations and guidance that has been received from the Governor's office, the Virginia Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. As of today, Loudoun County is anticipated to enter into Phase One on May 29<sup>th</sup>. If all goes well, Loudoun could potentially enter Phase Two towards the end of June or beginning of July.

Phase Two is anticipated to have the ability for gatherings of no more than 50 people, and will in all likelihood, still be in place through July 4, 2020. All of our 4<sup>th</sup> of July events every year far exceed 50 people in attendance and it is anticipated that this year will be consistent with past years. We looked at a variety of options, such as allowing the public to come and stay in their cars to watch the fireworks display, however, there remain considerable concerns around access to restrooms and traffic control, as well as the cost for an event that really would fall short of public expectations.

PRCS is planning for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July events at Franklin Park, Claude Moore Park, Lovettsville Community Center and the Celebrate Sterling Event to become Labor Day celebrations.



## Governor's Update

Today, Governor Northam announced the launch of a new website created by the Virginia Department of Health that lets individuals check their symptoms for signs of COVID-19 and locate places to receive a test. Furthermore, Virginia residents can access information about what to do if they believe they've been exposed to COVID-19. There are also several answers related to any questions you may have about testing.

Also, Virginia has partnered with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to allow residents receiving SNAP benefits to order groceries online. These orders can be delivered to a beneficiary's house. While Amazon and Walmart are the only participating companies, there is the possibility that other businesses will join the program in the coming weeks.



## Helping Neighbors During COVID-19

In a time like this, helping your neighbors is a great way to keep our community strong. It's especially important for those that may live alone or don't have family nearby.

Touch base with your neighbors, particularly those that are older, and offer to lend a hand with gathering necessities.

Ask how you might be able to help them safely. Hyper-local Facebook groups, NextDoor, and other platforms are providing ways for neighbors to connect and help each other. Social connection is an important way to cope with the uncertainty of the pandemic. Consider writing a letter to our community's nursing home and assisted living residents.

Share information that might be helpful to them:

- Loudoun County Sheriff's Office is offering prescription pick-up and drop off for vulnerable residents. Contact the Sheriff's Office at 703-777-1021 to request service.
- For basic needs assistance, call 703-777-0420, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Be aware of scams
- Know the symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if someone is sick
- Know how to protect older adults from COVID-19



Loudoun County  
VIRGINIA

**NEWS**

## Diagnostic Testing vs. Serologic Testing

Do you know the difference between diagnostic testing and serologic testing? Diagnostic testing is the throat or mouth swab that has been in use for several months to test whether someone is infectious with COVID-19 at that time. Newer serologic tests look for previous infection to COVID-19 by checking for antibodies in the blood.

Current serologic tests may not have gone through FDA review ([see FDA statement on Serological Tests](#)) and, more importantly, may not be able to tell the difference between strains of coronavirus ([see CDC information on coronavirus types](#)). If you are considering an antibody test, first ask whether the test is specific for COVID-19; if not, then a positive result could give you a false sense that you are immune to COVID-19 when in fact you just had the common cold. Learn more about [COVID testing](#).

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.





---

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)

---

## **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 Constant Contact](#)

Sent by juli.briskman@loudoun.gov in collaboration with



Try email marketing for free today!