



All About Algonkian



Juli E. Briskman | Algonkian District Supervisor



COVID-19 Update

COVID 19 NUMBERS	
VIRGINIA	LOUDOUN
 62,787	 4,000
 6,203	 275
 1,763	 87

Increase in COVID-19 Cases Amongst Teens and Young Adults

Over the past week, Loudoun County health officials have reported an increase in the number of positive tests for the coronavirus that causes COVID-19

among residents in the age group of 10 to 29 years.

More than half of those who tested positive in Loudoun were people 29 years old or younger. Over the past week alone, 150 people between the ages of 16 and 18 years old tested positive for COVID-19, which represents 58 percent of all people in this age group since the pandemic began.

The risk of exposure to the virus increases in large gatherings. Without proper precautions, events such as senior week festivities, beach trips, house parties and upcoming Fourth of July celebrations pose a danger, not only to the young people in attendance, but also to the people in the community they might unknowingly infect with the virus, including vulnerable older adults.

Parents, young adults and teens are encouraged to remain vigilant in taking the following precautions:

- Avoid large gatherings of people and sharing living spaces with people outside your immediate household.
- Practice social distancing: stay 6 feet apart from others whenever possible.

- Wear a face covering over the nose and mouth while in public, particularly indoors.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds; use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol when soap and water are not available.
- Stay home when sick, except when seeking medical care.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick, including in your home.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces frequently.
- Cover coughs and sneezes when not wearing a face covering.

Health officials urge anyone who has been in a large gathering and develops symptoms of COVID-19 to see a doctor and to notify others who were with them so they can take precautions as well. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer [this advice to teens and young adults on dealing with the pandemic](#) and [these recommendations for parents of teens](#) to help their children cope.



Governor Launches Rent Relief Program

Governor Northam launched the Virginia Rent and Mortgage Relief Program (RMRP), which will provide \$50 million in federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding for households facing eviction or foreclosure due to COVID-19. RMRP will provide short-term financial assistance on behalf of households in the form of rent and mortgage payments.

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will administer the \$50 million program through a variety of partners, including nonprofit organizations and local governments, which will receive upfront funds that they will distribute on behalf of eligible households. Individuals and families receiving funding will also be connected to housing counseling and receive other technical assistance.

Eligible households must demonstrate an inability to make rent or mortgage payments due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Monthly rent or mortgage must be at or below 150 percent Fair Market Rent (FMR), and eligible households must have a gross household income at or below 80 percent of area median income (AMI).

To ensure RMRP funding assists households most in need, the program will complete targeted outreach to communities of color across Virginia. Before the pandemic,

analysis from [RVA Eviction Lab at Virginia Commonwealth University](#) found that minority communities had higher eviction rates, even after controlling for income, property value, and other characteristics. The COVID-19 pandemic has also had a disproportionate impact on people of color.

The program will also give precedence to households without other federal and state eviction or foreclosure protections. From June 29 to July 20, priority will be given to households with current gross incomes equal to or below 50 percent of AMI. After July 20, households with current gross incomes at or below 80 percent of AMI will be also be included. In addition, households with an unlawful detainer action dated prior to June 8 will be given top consideration.

To identify the local RMRP administering organization for a household and to conduct a self-assessment for eligibility, visit dhcd.virginia.gov/eligibility or call 211 VIRGINIA by dialing 2-1-1 from your phone. Tenants and homeowners are encouraged to know their rights and responsibilities and pay their rent and mortgages on time if they are able. Visit StayHomeVirginia.com for additional information and resources.

LOUDOUN COUNTY VIRGINIA		Reopening Loudoun County		Virginia Forward Phased Plan	
	PHASE TWO June 12 - June 30		PHASE THREE Begins July 1, 2020		
CHILD CARE	Open		Open		
COUNTY PARKS & REC	Some parks/facilities open per guidelines. loudoun.gov/arcas/openingstatus		Parks/facilities open per guidelines. Adult Day Centers closed loudoun.gov/arcas/openingstatus		
FITNESS AND EXERCISE	Open at 30% Capacity		Open at 75% Capacity		
ENTERTAINMENT	Outdoor Venues Open at 50% Capacity, Indoor Venues Closed		Open at 50% Capacity		
FACE COVERINGS	Required, but with exceptions		Required, but with exceptions		
GATHERINGS	50-Person Limit		250-Person Limit		
COUNTY LIBRARIES	Open effective 6/24/20 with limited services		Open with limited services loudoun.gov		
NON-ESSENTIAL RETAIL	Open at 50% Capacity		Open; physical distancing required		
PERSONAL GROOMING	Open 50% Capacity; appointment only		Open; physical distancing required		
PLACES OF WORSHIP	Drive-in Services, 50% Capacity		Open; physical distancing required		
RESTAURANTS AND BEVERAGE SERVICES	Indoor/Outdoor Seating Open at 50% Capacity		Open; physical distancing required		
TELEWORKING	Strongly Encouraged		Strongly Encouraged		

Phase Three Begins Tomorrow

Virginia Governor Ralph Northam announced last week that Virginia—including Loudoun County and the rest of Northern Virginia—will move into the third phase of the state's gradual reopening on

Wednesday, July 1, 2020.

The Loudoun County government continues to practice social distancing and other measures that help limit the spread of germs. Member of the public are encouraged to visit the county's website to conduct business online and to view any impacts to in-person services prior to visiting a county facility.

- [View impacts to Loudoun County operations.](#)

In Phase Three, all Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) facilities, except Adult Day Centers, will be open with physical distancing and program restrictions or modifications in place.

- [View PRCS Closures and Operations Status.](#)

In addition, the branches of the Loudoun County Public Library are also now open with physical distancing measures in place and some limitations on services.

- [View more information about Library services.](#)

Phase Three of the "Forward Virginia" reopening plan is the next step in gradually easing public health restrictions that are designed to slow the spread of COVID-19. Governor Northam indicated Virginia's health metrics "continue to look good," citing the downward trend in the percent of positive tests and hospitalizations due to COVID-19, sufficient hospital capacity and personal protection equipment (PPE), increasing testing capacity and the hiring by the Virginia Department of Health of at least 1,000 contact tracers.

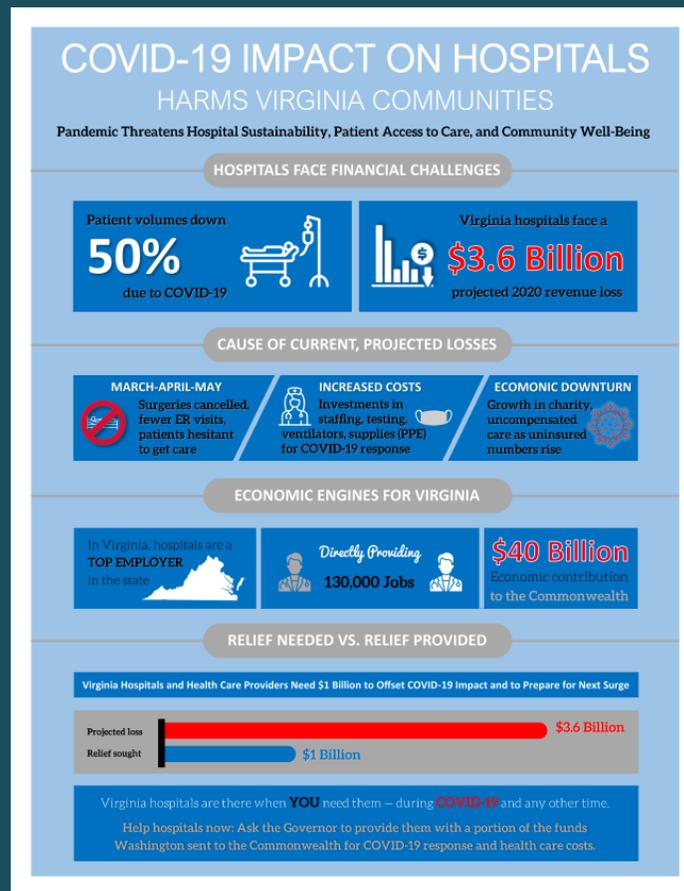
While Phase Three of the plan lifts capacity limits on non-essential retail establishments as well as restaurants, breweries, wineries and other beverage services, physical distancing is still required, as are face coverings in most indoor spaces.

Highlights of Phase Three include:

- Increasing the number of people allowed to gather in groups of up to 250 people; the restrictions do not apply to people performing functions of their employment.
- Allowing restaurants, breweries, wineries, etc., to offer indoor service in accordance with a number of guidelines, including seating patrons six feet apart.
- Allowing brick and mortar retail stores and personal grooming businesses to operate with a number of guidelines, including physical distancing.
- Allowing fitness centers, gymnasiums, etc., to operate in accordance with a number of guidelines, including keeping patrons at least ten feet apart, following mandatory cleaning and disinfection practices and limiting the total number of attendees to 75% of the facility's occupancy capacity.
- Allowing outdoor and indoor swimming pools to open at 75% capacity in accordance with a number of guidelines, including physical distancing.
- Allowing people to attend religious services in accordance with a number of guidelines, including seating attendees six feet apart (except for family members), and disinfecting frequently-contacted surfaces before and after religious services.
- Allowing entertainment venues, such as, bowling alleys, movie theaters, performing arts centers, museums, etc., to reopen at 50% of the facility's occupancy capacity, up to 1,000 people.
- Allowing child care facilities to open.
- Allowing indoor and outdoor recreational sports to take place with ten feet of physical distance between all instructors, participants, and spectators, where practicable; and with some attendance limitations.

More information about Phase Three of Virginia's plan, including mandatory requirements, best practices, and communication resources, is posted online in the [Phase Three Guidelines for All Business Sectors \(PDF\)](#).

VHHA published today the infographic on the financial impact of COVID-19 on hospitals and urges a portion of federal funds be directed to hospitals.





An Additional 400 Loudoun Small Business Receive \$5,000 Relief Grants

Loudoun County Economic Development completed the random selections for 400 COVID-19 Business Interruption Fund grants, totaling \$2 million.

The fund was created by the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors and the Loudoun Economic Development Authority in April, and dispersed \$1.4 million to 201 businesses in its first round. After the county received CARES Act funding in May, the fund was replenished with \$5.7 million, approximately \$3.7 million of which went to fully funding eligible applicants from the first round.

For this round, the Board of Supervisors focused on businesses that have between zero and two employees. This is the largest segment of businesses in Loudoun County, and includes solo entrepreneurs, family businesses, and larger operations that rely more on independent contractors than employees.

Eligible applicants were able to show that they had less than \$2.5 million in gross annual receipts, had at least a 25% loss in revenue due to COVID-19, and were an appropriately licensed, for-profit business that was operational in Loudoun County.

The grant recipients were randomly selected in a drawing at the Government Center, and the \$5,000 grants 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.



IRS Announces Rollover Relief

The Internal Revenue Service announced that anyone who already took a required minimum distribution (RMD) in 2020 from certain retirement accounts now has the opportunity to roll those funds back into a retirement account following the CARES Act RMD waiver for 2020. The 60-day rollover period for any RMDs already taken this year has been extended to August 31, 2020, to give taxpayers time

to take advantage of this opportunity.

The IRS described this change in [Notice 2020-51 \(PDF\)](#), released today. The Notice also answers questions regarding the waiver of RMDs for 2020 under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, known as the CARES Act.

The CARES Act enabled any taxpayer with an RMD due in 2020 from a defined-contribution retirement plan, including a 401(k) or 403(b) plan, or an IRA, to skip those RMDs this year. This includes anyone who turned age 70 1/2 in 2019 and would have had to take the first RMD by April 1, 2020. This waiver does not apply to defined-benefit plans.

In addition to the rollover opportunity, an IRA owner or beneficiary who has already received a distribution from an IRA of an amount that would have been an RMD in 2020 can repay the distribution to the IRA by August 31, 2020. The notice provides that this repayment is not subject to the one rollover per 12-month period limitation and the restriction on rollovers for inherited IRAs.

The notice provides two sample amendments that employers may adopt to give plan participants and beneficiaries whose RMDs are waived a choice as to whether or not to receive the waived RMD.

Reminder from the Northern Virginia Regional Commission



Please share any messages of hope you see. Submissions may be sent to Zachary Harris at 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

Call: (703) 737-8300

Email: Health@Loudoun.gov

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