



All About Algonkian



Juli E. Briskman | Algonkian District Supervisor



COVID-19 Update

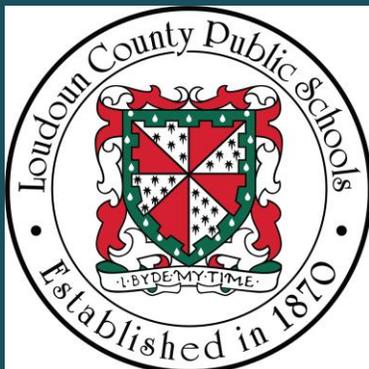
COVID 19 NUMBERS

VIRGINIA	LOUDOUN
 81,237	 4,758
 7,437	 325
 2,054	 106

Local and State COVID-19 Trends

After experiencing a small surge in cases due to beach vacations, the rate of new COVID-19 patients in Loudoun County has remained steady over the past few weeks. While the hospitalization rate throughout

Northern Virginia has increased, Loudoun's percent positivity rate has remained below 10 percent since July 2. According to a model used by the Loudoun County Health Department, cases are expected to increase by 27 cases per day over the next week. Overall, the state of Virginia is experiencing an increase in cases as a result of outbreaks in the eastern region.



LCPS to Start School with 100% Distance Learning

Superintendent Dr. Eric Williams recommended and the School Board endorsed a plan for Loudoun County Public Schools to start the new school year providing 100 percent distance learning to all students, with limited exceptions, and to subsequently implement the planned hybrid model in stages. Nearly all students will start the school

year on September 8 participating in classes provided remotely, using electronic tools to access live, synchronous classes and classroom meetings, while also engaging in structured learning through online resources and other learning tools provided by LCPS. Most students will not come to school buildings for instruction at the start of the new school year.

Below is an excerpt from a statement released by Dr. Williams on July 22:

We have consistently emphasized that decisions will be based on conditions, particularly public health conditions, and that plans are subject to change, given how much is unknown about the virus and the evolving science-based understanding of it. We based yesterday's recommendation on new information and insights from the last three weeks.

- We gained greater insight into the challenges of safe, in-person learning once we started providing in-person learning opportunities to limited numbers of students with disabilities on Monday, July 13;
- We've learned that the rise in cases nationally, particularly in the south, has delayed the processing times for COVID-19 tests, which undermines efforts to operate safely and effectively;
- Additional information from public health officials regarding when they would recommend student and staff quarantines and isolations, as well as school closures, clarifies the level of disruption to learning that would occur unless physical distancing and face covering recommendations are implemented with extremely high levels of consistency;
- As division-level administrators and principals across the division have worked on school-level plans, we've gained a fuller understanding of the challenges that teachers, other staff members and students would experience daily to maintain their safety while participating in high-quality, in-person learning; and
- New data relating to child care and potential leaves of absence sheds light on challenges to meeting our staffing needs so that we can best serve students.

Details about these and other new factors that relate to last night's decision are contained in [my latest presentation](#) to the school board.

I want to focus for a moment now on the benefits that we see emerging from this decision, even as we continue to develop our plans. First and foremost, starting the year with 100% distance learning and implementing the planned hybrid model in stages better protects the health of students, staff, and the broader community by enhancing LCPS' capacity to consistently implement crucial public health precautions, including consistent physical distancing and use of face coverings. This approach allows the division to increase the scale of implementing public health precautions in several stages, rather than immediately moving to full-scale implementation. Each new stage of scaling will be contingent on assessing

implementation of the previous stage, as well as public health conditions and other data available at that time, enabling a safer and more successful expansion. This approach also allows more time for the potential of decreasing the current processing time for testing, which supports contact tracing.

Secondly, implementation of the hybrid model in stages also will provide more consistent, higher-quality learning experiences for students, given the additional information we received regarding the situations in which quarantines, isolations, and school closures would occur. We know these situations would be more likely (and extremely disruptive to the learning experience for students) without implementing the hybrid model in stages in order to promote greater consistency with public health precautions, particularly as it relates to guidance for physical distancing and face coverings. Starting the year with a 100% distance learning model also will allow instructional staff members to focus more on strengthening the instructional value of the distance learning model, including applying lessons learned during our spring distance-learning experience.

Finally, implementation of the hybrid model in stages increases the likelihood that LCPS can meet staffing needs in order to better meet the needs of students. Concerns related to staffing include the availability of childcare for staff members, as well the ability to provide a safe environment so teachers can focus on doing their jobs rather than the potential risk associated with exposure to the COVID virus. Even if only a small percentage of school-based employees take leave or resign due to childcare issues or health concerns, it would threaten our ability to assign qualified individuals to school-based positions.

We will provide additional details regarding the school year as we move forward with planning, including information regarding the details of the stages, such as which students would participate in in-person learning in particular stages. We know this is not the solution that some Loudoun families prefer, and we recognize that this model creates new challenges for many. LCPS' preference continues to be for 100% in-person learning, as long as we can provide learning experiences safely and in accordance with the requirements and recommendations of state and public health officials. We all look forward to the day when we can reopen schools with in-person learning for everyone. Thank you.



Governor's Updates

Governor Ralph Northam announced last week that he is calling the General Assembly into special session on Tuesday, August 18, following the Governor's traditional end-of-fiscal-year report to the General Assembly's money committees. A special session is necessary to adopt a budget based on the revised revenue forecast in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, Governor Northam will work closely with legislative leaders and advocates to propose additional criminal justice and policing reform.

The General Assembly will meet to adopt a final budget, a process that was postponed earlier in the year due to COVID-19. In April, Governor Northam worked with legislators to "unallot," or freeze, over \$2.2 billion in new spending in Virginia's new biennial budget. This strategy allowed time for the Commonwealth's fiscal outlook to stabilize and avoided major cuts to important new programs and state services. Legislators will now consider a number of items previously "unallotted"—including the Governor's historic investments in early childhood education, tuition-free community college, affordable housing, and broadband.

Policing initiatives are expected to include measures aimed at police accountability and oversight, use of force, increased training and education, and officer recruitment, hiring, and decertification. Governor Northam has directed the Department of Criminal Justice Services, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the Virginia African American Advisory Board, and the Commission to Examine Racial Inequity in Virginia Law to assist the administration in developing policy initiatives. The Governor will continue to work closely with legislators and community advocates on specific legislative proposals.

The full text of Governor Northam's proclamation is available [here](#).

Governor Northam also announced that more than \$866,000 will be awarded to 90 destination marketing organizations (DMO) through the Virginia Tourism Corporation's (VTC) new DMO WanderLove Recovery Grant Program [announced](#) in June. First Lady Pamela Northam joined VTC leaders and local officials at an event in the City of Alexandria to recognize Visit Alexandria as a grant recipient and highlight the city's small businesses that are demonstrating resilience in the face of public health and economic crises.

Recovery marketing funds will be awarded to DMOs that have been heavily impacted by the novel coronavirus pandemic, with each awardee receiving a maximum of \$10,000. While the grant program did not require a cash match, destinations have pledged a collective in-kind match of more than \$3 million. Funds must be used for recovery marketing and may be used for participating in

the VTC co-ops, local advertising, out-of-state marketing, and other allowable items.

VTC's WanderLove campaign launched on June 15, 2020 and provides travel inspiration for road trips, outdoor recreation, hidden gems, small towns, and its signature LOVEworks program. The campaign was created in response to industry research indicating that travelers will be seeking safe, close-to-home destinations that allow for social distancing and have access to open spaces like beaches, outdoor recreation, and rural experiences. DMO grant recipients will be given creative assets and a toolkit to implement WanderLove in their own marketing.

VTC encouraged applicants to develop creative campaigns centered on road trips that can be marketed to both in-state and out-of-state travelers. For example, Floyd County will use WanderLove funds for a comprehensive, community-wide program to assist local businesses in developing itineraries that highlight the best of Floyd. Charlottesville, in addition to promoting local attractions, will engage with the Northern Neck Tourism Commission and Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority to do cross-promotion and drive visitation to all parts of Virginia. Loudoun County will develop a digital toolkit to generate awareness and excitement about WanderLove among its local business community.

In 2018, visitors spent \$26 billion, which supported 236,000 work opportunities and contributed \$1.8 billion in state and local taxes. A full list of WanderLove Recovery Grant recipients can be found below. To view VTC's WanderLove launch video, please click [here](#).



Metro to Add More Routes

Metro will add more buses, more trains, and more hours of service beginning on Sunday, August 16, 2020, restoring most service to pre-Covid levels while maintaining a strong response posture to Covid-19. Metrorail will add 15 hours more service per week, with opening times returning to normal and the system closing two hours later each night in anticipation of potential increases in ridership after Labor Day.

Metro today also announced a significant investment to support the region's overnight workers by doubling the discount customers receive when using Lyft during times Metro is not available.

Metrobus will offer more buses, running more frequent service beginning Sunday, August 23 restoring approximately 75 percent of pre-pandemic service. Weekday service will improve on 174 routes with most routes operating close to normal. Buses will operate until midnight, an additional hour.

In an effort to provide additional transportation options for late-night workers, Metro is increasing the subsidy from \$3 to \$6 for on-demand transportation service after hours. The program, known as the After-Hours Commuter Service, gives qualified workers a subsidy toward a shared ride on Lyft for trips between their home and workplace between midnight and 4 a.m. Eligible workers may apply online at wmata.com/afterhours.

Metro remains on track to re-open six Fairfax County stations on the Orange and Silver lines August 16, as announced last month. The stations west of Ballston - McLean, Tysons Corner, Greensboro, Spring Hill, and Wiehle-Reston East on the Silver Line plus West Falls Church on the Orange Line – had been closed since late May to complete work for Silver Line Phase 2 and platform reconstruction. The remaining Orange Line stations, Vienna, Dunn Loring and East Falls Church are on target for completion around Labor Day, September 7.



Will the Health Department Contact me if I Test Positive for COVID-19?

If you test positive for COVID, you may be contacted by a Loudoun County Health Department Case Investigator (usually by phone) for a voluntary and confidential conversation. The case investigator will ask you some questions to understand more about you and your illness. The interviewer will work with you to create a list of all of the people you may have had close contact with while you were sick, and right before you felt sick. This process helps to find people who may have been exposed to COVID-19.

After your close contacts have been identified, a contact tracer will reach out and notify them of their possible exposure as soon as possible. When the interviewer calls close contacts, they do NOT tell them who it was who tested positive for COVID-19. This conversation will be confidential to protect and respect your privacy. Both case investigators and contact tracers will also provide education, information, and support to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

[Read more about case investigations and contact tracing on the Virginia Department of Health website.](#)

Household Hazardous Waste Event

July 25, 2020
8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Lovettsville Elementary School
49 South Loudoun St.
Lovettsville

loudoun.gov/hhw



LOUDOUN
COUNTY
VIRGINIA

Next Hazardous Waste Event on July 25

The next Loudoun County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection event is scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2020, at the Lovettsville Elementary School, 49 South Loudoun Street in

Lovettsville, from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Loudoun residents are welcome to bring HHW from their homes to the event, free of charge.

What's Accepted

- Typical HHW includes: fluorescent light bulbs, dry-cell batteries, such as alkaline, Ni-Cad, Lithium, rechargeable, etc. (but no automobile batteries), oil-based paint/stain/varnish, paint thinner, mineral spirits, metal polish, rust remover, wood strippers and preservatives, furniture polish, waxes, sealants and solvents, bleach, pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, fertilizer, pool chemicals, muriatic acid, sulfuric acid, ammonia, mercury, mercury thermometers and thermostats, gasoline, expired fuel, auto cleaners and flushes, brake and transmission fluid, windshield washer fluid, fire extinguishers, moth balls, flea and tick products, photographic chemicals and other hobby chemicals.
- Anyone who has an item that is not on this list is encouraged to call the county's Waste Management Division at 571-233-1937 or 703-771-5500 to see if the item is accepted or if an alternate disposal option is needed.
- HHW should only be brought to this location on the scheduled date and event time. Please do not drop off material at any unattended site.

Social Distancing and Other Procedures

- The HHW events include social distancing measures that help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. In accordance with Governor Northam's [Executive Order 63 \(PDF\)](#), **members of the public will be required to wear face coverings at the point of service.** Because of safety concerns related to various types of hazardous materials, the events feature a drive-through process in which residents are instructed to remain in their vehicles and allow event staff to unload any items accepted for disposal. In order to achieve adequate social distancing between event staff and customers, items must be **placed in the rear of the vehicle, such as the trunk of a car, the bed of a pickup truck or the very back of an SUV.** Items will not be accepted if in the front seat, back seat or if the driver attempts to hand an item to staff. In order to ensure everyone remains in their vehicle while at the point of service, items must not be in plastic bags. This includes sealed, closed or tied plastic bags. Staff are not allowed to open any plastic bag containing HHW.

- The limit per household is 15 gallons of liquid HHW (container size not to exceed 5-gallon), and 40 pounds of solid HHW (container size not to exceed 5-gallon).
- Participants should be able to provide proof of Loudoun County residency such as a driver's license or utility bill.

What's Not Accepted

- Motor oil, antifreeze, automobile batteries, propane tanks, helium tanks, CO2 tanks/cartridges, drywall compound and oil-based space heaters are not accepted at HHW collection events. These materials are accepted at the Loudoun County Solid Waste Management Facility (landfill), 21101 Evergreen Mills Road, Leesburg. Visit loudoun.gov/landfill for more information.
- Ammunition, explosives, fireworks, and gun powder are not accepted at the HHW collection events. For information about disposal of these items, contact the [Loudoun County Fire Marshal's Office](http://loudoun.gov/fire) at 703-737-8600.
- Electronics are not accepted at the HHW collection events. Information on how to properly dispose of unwanted electronics is online at loudoun.gov/electronics.
- Medical waste and medications are not accepted at HHW collection events. Disposal information is available at loudoun.gov/hhw.

Latex or water-based paint is not hazardous and should be taken to the Loudoun County Solid Waste Management Facility (landfill), where it can be disposed of for a fee, Monday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Visit loudoun.gov/landfill for more information.

Nonresidential Hazardous Waste

- Businesses and organizations in Loudoun that generate less than 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month are encouraged to visit loudoun.gov/bhwp or call 703-771-5500 for information about the county's Business Hazardous Waste Collection Program.



Beware of Scams

Beware of COVID-19 scammers trying to use your compassion or fear of the virus against you. [Learn more \(PDF\)](#). The Virginia Coronavirus Fraud Task

Force and Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigations are warning taxpayers to be alert about possible scams relating to [COVID-19 economic impact payments](#). To report fraudulent activity to the Virginia State Police, Virginians can [Email Virginia Fusion Center](#). To report a COVID-19 fraud scheme or suspicious

activity, contact the National Center for Disaster Fraud hotline at 1-866-720-5721 or [send an email](#).

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

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 our service provider](#)

Sent by juli.briskman@loudoun.gov powered by

