



VOTING: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

On Wednesday, April 8, Governor Ralph Northam announced that he is recommending postponing the May 5 municipal elections to November and delaying the Tuesday, June 9 congressional primaries by two weeks (June 23) out of a concern for people voting in-person during the coronavirus pandemic.



On Wednesday, April 22, the General Assembly will have to decide whether or not to delay the municipal elections. However, the Governor does have the authority to delay the June 9 congressional primaries and does not need additional approval to do so.

Because it is unknown whether or not the General Assembly will approve the Governor's request to change the May election, the Lynchburg Registrar's Office is recommending that voters proceed and vote absentee.

"The deadline to request to have an absentee ballot mailed to a voter is Tuesday, April 28," said General Registrar Christine Gibbons. "Since the General Assembly won't meet until April 22, I would encourage people to go ahead and apply to have a ballot mailed to them just in case the General Assembly should not approve the change."

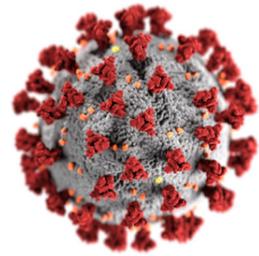
Voters may also vote in person; however, the Virginia Department of Elections encourages voters to protect their health during COVID-19 outbreak. Voting absentee in the upcoming local May elections is strongly encouraged. Voters may choose reason 2A for absentee voting in the May 2020 elections due to COVID-19. Voters who choose the absentee option should do so as soon as possible so they can receive their ballots in time to return them by mail by Election Day, May 5.

REQUESTING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT IS EASY!

- Apply online: <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>
- Visit www.lynchburgva.gov/registrars-office to request an absentee ballot or for additional information.
- Email: registrar@lynchburgva.gov
- Phone: (434) 477-5999

COVID-19: LOCAL INFORMATION

Although several City buildings and offices are closed to the public, employees will continue to provide services under a minimal staffing plan.



- Residents are encouraged to conduct business with the City online, by mail or telephone (see below for details).
- Anyone making payments to the City may do so online at www.lynchburgva.gov, by mail or using the white drop box located in front of City Hall. No cash should be placed in the drop box, only checks and money orders, please.
- State income tax returns are due by May 1. Those who need assistance in preparing their return by the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office will not be able to visit the office in person. Instead, call the office at (434) 455-3870 or send an email to cor@lynchburgva.gov for assistance.
- The Concord Turnpike Convenience Center continues to operate with normal hours, Tuesday - Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The Livestock Road Landfill will be temporarily closed to the public on Saturdays in response COVID-19. The new hours of operation will be Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. for all customers.
- The Water Plant and Water Museum, Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Pedlar Reservoir are closed to the public until further notice. Please call (434) 455-4250 with any water-related problems.
- VA DMV Select Office at City Hall is closed until further notice. In addition the DMV Connect Mobile service has been canceled and tentatively rescheduled for Thursday, July 9 at City Hall. For information on DMV's plan to offer extensions on credentials that will expire during this time, visit www.dmvnow.com.
- All Parks and Recreation community centers, as well as the Miller Center are closed to the public. Visit www.lynchburgparksandrec.com for more information.
- The Human Services Building, located at 99 Ninth Street is closed to the public until further notice. Benefits and services will continue to be provided as needed. Residents may continue to apply for benefits online at www.commonhelp.virginia.gov. For information regarding SNAP, TANF and Medicaid, call toll free (855) 636-4379. Those who need to speak with someone at the Human Services Department can call the main number, (434) 455-5850.

- For more information regarding City services, call the Citizens First Information Center (M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) at (434) 856-CITY (2489), or download the City of Lynchburg's mobile app at www.lynchburgva.gov/apps.

ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO PAY CITY BILLS

Citizens are encouraged to use alternative methods to pay water utility bills, taxes and other payments to the City of Lynchburg.

- In addition to mail, residents may use the online payment options at <https://webapps.lynchburgva.gov/citylink> or the City of Lynchburg's downloadable app (available at www.lynchburgva.gov/apps).
- To pay parking citations or renew unexpired parking permits, visit <https://lynchburg.t2hosted.com/Account/Portal>

For more information about paying online, call Citizens First at (434) 856-CITY.

ELDER REASSURANCE SUPPORT LINE

Senior citizens who have questions about the pandemic or just need to chat with someone can call the Elder Reassurance Hotline at (434) 455-4115 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. The Parks and Recreation Department recently established the hotline to offer support to the elderly during the pandemic.

Page 3

Upon completion of the form, return this page only to the address on page 2 for the city/county where you are applying.

Virginia Absentee Ballot Application Form

* Unless otherwise indicated, all items on this form are required. Please print clearly. Instructions on page 4.

1 Your Name & SSN
 DOE JANE
 Z _____ Suffix Social Security # [*Last 4-digits required (optional if completing in person)]

2 Election
 I am applying to vote in: General or Special Election Democratic Primary Republican Primary
 Date of Election 0 5 / 0 5 / 2 0 I am registered to vote in the County City of _____

3 Reason for Absentee Ballot
 Reason Code [2A] Supporting Info (if required) * Your application will be denied if a qualifying reason and required information are not provided.

4 More Info
 Birth Year [1 1 / 9 / 9] Telephone [5 5 5 - 5 5 5 - 5 5 5]
 Email/Fax JANE.DOE@LYNCHBURG.COM

5 Residence Address
 Address 100 ANYWHERE STREET APT/Suite # _____
 City LYNCHBURG State VA Zip Code [2 4 5 0 4]

6 Delivery of Ballot
 I would like my ballot delivered to: Residence Address (Provide in Part #5) Mailing Address (Provide below)
 Email (6A-6D Only) (Provide in Part #4) Fax (6A-6D only) (Provide in Part #4)
 Address _____ APT/Suite # _____
 City _____ State/Country _____ Zip Code [N N N N - N N N N]

7 Change of Name/Address
 Former Full Name _____ Date Moved [M / P / Y / Y]
 Former Address _____

8 Assistance To Vote
 I will need assistance in completing my ballot due to a disability, blindness, or inability to read or write. If checked, assistance form will be provided with ballot.

9 Assistant's Statement/Info
 I swear/affirm, under felony penalty for making willfully false material statements, that the information I have provided on this form is true and I have written on the Applicant's signature line in part #10 "Applicant Unable to Sign."
 Provide Information of Assistant
 Full Name _____
 Address _____ APT/Suite # _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code [N N N N - N N N N]
 Signature _____

10 Applicant Signature
 I swear/affirm, under felony penalty for making willfully false material statements, that (1) the information I have provided on this form is true, and (2) I am not requesting a ballot or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., except the jurisdiction to which this application relates.
 Signature (or mark if unable to sign) _____ Today's Date [M / P / Y / Y]

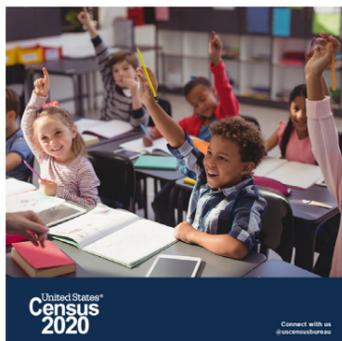
Office Use Only

Precinct _____ District/Senate/House _____ Application # _____ Application Accepted Yes No
 Date Received [M / P / Y / Y] Received By _____
 Method Received In Person By Mail By Fax Email Other _____
 Reason Not Accepted _____
 Ballot Sent By Mail Email Fax In Person On Machine Yes No

SEE 701 Rev. 07/2018

CENSUS 2020 - BE COUNTED TODAY!

All Lynchburg residents should have received an invitation by now to complete the 2020 Census. You have three options to respond: online, by mail or by phone. When completing the census, you will note where you and your household were living on April 1. Your count helps provide resources to our community for things like school lunches, housing assistance, public transit, road construction and more.



With the negative effect of the COVID-19 pandemic may have on the City's revenues, it is more important than ever before that we have a complete count to ensure that Lynchburg receives the federal and state funding it needs! Be counted today!

Complete it online at www.2020census.gov or phone at 1-844-330-2020.

Here's a look at some of the key dates:

- **Through August 14:** The public is strongly encouraged to respond online. (Options for responding by phone or mail are also available.)
- **By April 1, 2021:** By this date, the Census Bureau will send redistricting counts to states. This information is used to redraw legislative districts based on population changes.

COVID-19

LYNCHBURG PARKS & REC

Elder Reassurance Support Line

Call today to connect with local resources or simply to talk to our friendly Templeton Center staff.

CALL TODAY!
(434) 455-4115
OPEN M-Su | 8AM-8PM

LYNCHBURG ALERTS

If We Can't Reach You... We Can't Alert You!

www.LynchburgAlerts.com

Sign up today for emergency and weather alerts at www.LynchburgAlerts.com



WATER RESOURCES: CUTOFFS SUSPENDED

The Department of Water Resources remains focused on providing reliable water and wastewater services so that customers can focus on keeping their families healthy and well.



All water service cutoffs for non-payment through May 15, 2020 have been suspended. Late fees also will be waived during this time period.

Water bills will continue to be mailed under the normal process as well as delinquency notifications. Customers are reminded that they are still responsible for the charges they accrue and are urged to make every effort to keep their accounts current while disconnections are suspended. Customers can mail their payments, use the dropbox in front of City Hall, pay online or by downloading the City's mobile app at www.lynchburgva.gov/apps.

Safe water and sewer services are essential to protecting human health during all infectious disease outbreaks. Water Resources is committed and prepared to keep water flowing 24/7!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU FY 2021 BUDGET BALANCING ACT

Right now, you have a lot of things that occupy your attention, the least of which is how the City is going to balance its budget! We understand! If you are tired of watching press conferences, can't take one more minute of Paw Patrol or you've already completed your next grocery run, we would really appreciate your help!



On March 10, City Manager Bonnie Svrcek presented her proposed balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2021 (July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021). However, due to the recent economic impacts related to the COVID-19 public health crisis, several key revenue sources are now projected to be less than originally proposed.

Located on the City's website, <https://lynchburgva.abalancingact.com/rebalancing-proposed-fy-2021> is a tool called Balancing Act! It's an easy to use program that allows you to rebalance the budget and put the money where you think it belongs. Don't forget to submit the results when you're done. On Tuesday, April 28, City Council will begin to consider options, and this allows your voice to be part of their decision making process. Remember, as a resident of this community, it's your money! Let us know how you think it should be spent with Balancing Act!

WARNING: COVID-19 SCAMS

As the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to impact the United States, phone scammers have seized the opportunity to prey on consumers.



The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has received reports of scam and hoax text message campaigns and scam robocalls offering free home testing kits, promoting bogus cures, selling health insurance and preying on virus-related fears. A text message scam may falsely advertise a cure or an offer to be tested for the coronavirus. Do not click on links in texts related to the virus, and be sure to visit www.cdc.gov/coronavirus for the most current information.

Some text scams are impersonating government agencies. The FCC recently learned of a text scam claiming to be from the "FCC Financial Care Center" and offering \$30,000 in COVID-19 relief. There is no FCC program to provide relief funds to consumers. The text is likely a phishing attempt to get banking or other personal information from victims. The Better Business Bureau is also warning of a text message scam impersonating the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services informing recipients that they must take a "mandatory online COVID-19 test" using the included link.

Text message hoaxes may claim the government will order a mandatory national two-week quarantine or instruct you to stock up on supplies. The messages can appear to be from a "next door neighbor." The National Security Council tweeted that these are fake. FEMA is tracking rumors and reminding consumers to always check a trusted source.

Scammers are also using robocalls to target consumers during this national emergency. For example, the World Health Organization (WHO) recently issued a warning about criminals seeking to take advantage of the pandemic to steal money or sensitive personal information from consumers. It urges people to be wary of phone calls and text messages that purport to be from the WHO or charity organizations asking for account information or for money.

Many consumers will receive checks as part of the federal government response to the coronavirus. No one will call or text you to verify your personal information or bank account details in order to "release" the funds. The Treasury Department expects most people to receive their payments via the direct deposit information on file from prior tax filings.

If you think you've been a victim of a coronavirus scam, contact your local law enforcement immediately.

LYNCHBURG DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Numbers to Call Instead of 9-1-1

COVID-19 QUESTIONS

- Virginia Department of Health COVID-19 Hotline - (877) ASK-VDH3
- Your Medical Provider

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Blue Ridge Regional Jail - 847-1300
- Magistrate's Office - 847-1329
- Police Information Desk - 455-6041
- Fire Administration - 455-6340
- Lynchburg Sheriff's Office - 847-1301
- Dispatch Non-Emergency - 847-1602

UTILITIES

- Appalachian Power 1-800-956-4237
- Columbia Gas 1-800-543-8911
- Lynchburg Department of Water Resources 455-4250

CITY SERVICES

Dial 856-CITY for questions about changes in City Services due to COVID-19.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- Virginia 2-1-1
- Lynchburg Department of Human Services - 455-5850

VIRGINIA 1-1 NUMBERS

- 2-1-1: Health and Human Services
- 4-1-1: Directory Assistance
- 5-1-1: Travel Info and Road Conditions
- 6-1-1: Cell Phone Customer Service
- 7-1-1: Relay for the Deaf
- 8-1-1: Miss Utility for Digging in the Ground

12TH STREET UTILITY PROJECT DETOUR

The 12th Street utility project involves replacing old and undersized water mains with new water service lines to provide better fire protection to Dunbar Middle School, businesses and residences along 11th and 12th Streets.

Beginning in early May and continuing for approximately four months, the northbound lane of 12th Street (towards Downtown Lynchburg) between Buchanan and Jackson Streets will be **closed** to through traffic. Detour signs will direct motorists from Park Avenue to Fifth Street to Church Street to 12th Street. The southbound lane of 12th Street (towards Kemper Street) will remain open.

For project updates, visit www.lynchburgva.gov/12th-Street-Utility. To receive email updates, send your request to Mari Smallshaw, Public Relations Specialist at mari.smallshaw@lynchburgva.gov. You may call (434) 455-4226 with any questions or concerns.

Lynchburg Water Resources is prepared and committed to keeping your water flowing 24/7!



We'll keep the water on.

We're suspending all water service cutoffs for non-payment through May 15, 2020 to make sure you can continue to practice good hygiene, by washing your hands with soap and water. Having reliable water and wastewater services allows you to focus on staying healthy and well.



Your drinking water is safe.

Lynchburg's drinking water is high-quality and safe to drink. The water treatment methods we use at our plants are effective against COVID-19. We continue to test and monitor our drinking water supplies round-the-clock.



Only flush the 3P's: Pee, Poo, and (toilet) Paper.

Please remember to dispose of wipes in the trash, NOT the toilet! Even the wipes labeled as "flushable" don't break down. They can cause sewer backups and overflows, and we don't want to create any additional health risk at this time. So please remember: only the three P's down the toilet: pee, poo, and (toilet) paper.



Water plays a big role in prevention.

Frequent and proper hand hygiene is one of the most important things we all can do to prevent infection. That means washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

TIPS TO HELP PROTECT YOU FROM SCAMS

- Do not respond to calls or texts from unknown numbers or any others that appear suspicious.
- Never share your personal or financial information via email, text messages or by phone.
- Be cautious if you're being pressured to share any information or make a payment immediately.
- Scammers often spoof phone numbers to trick you into answering or responding. Remember that government agencies will never call you to ask for personal information or money.
- Do not click any links in a text message. If a friend sends you a text with a suspicious link that seems out of character, call them to make sure they weren't hacked.
- Always confirm a charity is legitimate (for example, by calling or viewing its actual website) before donating.

If you receive calls, emails or other communications claiming to be from the Treasury Department and offering COVID-19 related grants or stimulus payments in exchange for personal financial information, an advance fee or charge of any kind, including the purchase of gift cards, please do not respond. THESE ARE SCAMS! Please contact the FBI at www.ic3.gov so the scammers can be tracked and stopped.