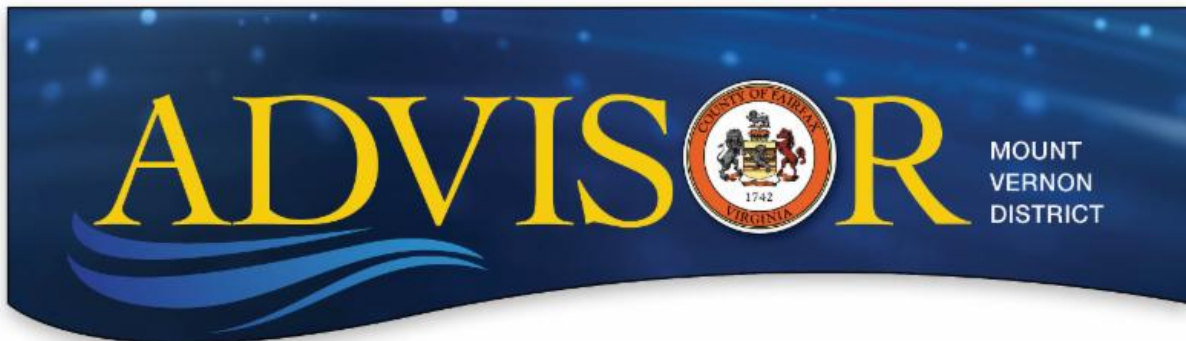


March 2020



As we celebrate **Women's History Month in the Year of the Woman**, I am reminded of the many **important contributions** of women throughout history. Here in the Mount Vernon District, that impact is well documented. It was the **Ladies of Mount Vernon** that recognized the importance of **honoring our first President** through **preserving George Washington's Estate**. They took action to **preserve, restore and maintain** this historic property for all to **experience the lives of George and Martha Washington**, their families and their heritage. On **August 26, 2020**, we will gather to celebrate the opening of the **Turning Point Suffragists Memorial at Occoquan Regional Park** on the **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of passage of the Women's Right to Vote**. Today, women across the state are still working to ensure the passage of the **Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)**, an effort which was first proposed by the **National Woman's political party in 1923**. In January, **Virginia became the 38th state** to ratify the ERA.

I know many of you are **concerned about the spread of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)**. At this time, there are **no known cases in Fairfax County, or Virginia**. The Fairfax County Health Department is working closely with the Virginia Department of Health and our local healthcare community to **limit the spread of Coronavirus** that began in Wuhan, China. **The Health Department will continue to monitor the situation and will keep the public informed**. The best source of information is the **County's webpage that will be updated regularly** and includes **steps to help prevent the disease**. I will share new information as it becomes available. See more information and **view the latest video by Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu**, Director of Health for the County. The **Board of Supervisors will be briefed by Dr. Addo-Ayensu at 10 a.m. on Tuesday** at the Board meeting. **Watch live** on Channel 16. In addition, Congressman **Don Beyer's town hall on March 10 at 7 p.m. at Gunston Hall** will include a **short debrief by Fairfax County Health Department's Director**, Division of Epidemiology and Population Health on Fairfax County **efforts to contain COVID-19**.

I hope you will **join me throughout the month** as we host two **Teen Job Fairs at South County High School on March 7 from 2 – 4 p.m.** and **Mount Vernon High School on March 21 from 10 a.m. – noon**. Then bring your furry friends to enjoy a playful afternoon at the **Ides of Bark Dog Festival on Sunday, March 29 from 1 – 4 p.m. at Grist Mill Park!** And, be sure to check out our **new website feature – Destination and Attractions** in the Mount Vernon District on our [home page!](#)

**May the Ides be with you!**

Respectfully yours in public service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Storck".

Dan Storck  
Supervisor, Mount Vernon District  
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors



Ides of Bark Dog Festival March 29

Visit our Website

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## Coronavirus (COVID-19)

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### What You Need to Know about the Coronavirus (COVID-19)



**Coronavirus disease**, also known as **COVID-19**, is an illness that was first detected in Wuhan, China in December, 2019. It has since spread all over the world. **Teams of researchers across the globe** are working together to learn more about the illness, how it spreads, and how to stop it.

In Fairfax County, as well as in all of Virginia, Maryland and Washington D.C., there have been **no documented COVID-19 infections**. Fairfax County Health Department (FCHD) continues to work with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to respond to the expanding global outbreak and to **prepare for the possibility** that cases will occur in our area.

We are working closely with **health care providers, and public health and safety partners** to quickly identify people who may have been exposed to coronavirus disease. We are **taking appropriate public health actions** and working with the CDC to test people for COVID-19 as needed. If a person is diagnosed with COVID-19, **we will then work with the patient**, their medical provider, and their family to treat the illness and isolate the individual. **We are prepared to respond to a COVID-19 outbreak if it happens.**

Coronaviruses, like other respiratory viruses, **spread from an infected person to others through:**

- **the air by coughing and sneezing**
- **close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands**
- **touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes**

In certain locations where there are diagnosed cases of COVID-19, there are some people **infected with the virus who are not sure how** or where they became infected. This is called "**community spread**" and it means that COVID-19 is not just occurring in people who have traveled from other countries, but is **present in the community**. However, in other communities, including Fairfax County, the **risk to the general public remains low**.



Respiratory illnesses typically **cause more severe illness in older people and those who have underlying health conditions**, and coronavirus disease is no different. **Steps you can take to prevent spread** of respiratory illnesses like the flu and the common cold will also help prevent coronavirus disease:

- **wash hands often** with soap and water. If not available, **use hand sanitizer**
- **avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth** with unwashed hands
- **cover your mouth/nose** with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing
- **avoid contact with people who are sick**
- **stay home while you are sick** and avoid close contact with others

It is also suggested that you **plan your travel carefully**. The CDC has issued **travel notices for places** where the virus is spreading. Travelers should review the [CDC's guidance](#) for more information.

Currently, there are **no vaccines available to prevent coronavirus disease**.

The Fairfax County Health Department encourages everyone in our local community to **separate facts from fear and guard against stigma** as we fight the COVID-19 outbreak together. There is **no reason to treat people of a certain race or ethnicity differently**, no reason to assume they have or can spread COVID-19, and **no reason to avoid businesses** owned by people of a certain race or ethnicity because of fear of COVID-19 infection. **Misinformation about coronavirus can create fear and hostility** that hurts people and makes it harder to keep everyone healthy. We can fight stigma and support others by **sharing accurate information and staying informed through reputable, trusted sources**.

[For more information on COVID-19...](#)

You can also follow the **Fairfax County Health Department's social media feeds**:  
[www.facebook.com/fairfaxcountyhealth](http://www.facebook.com/fairfaxcountyhealth)  
[www.twitter.com/fairfaxhealth](http://www.twitter.com/fairfaxhealth)

**Emergency preparation resources:**

[Sign up for Fairfax Alerts...](#)

[Download the Community Emergency Response Guide from Fairfax County's Office of Emergency Management...](#)

[Health Department Emergency Planning Resources...](#)

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## South County Site Specific Plan Amendment

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### Screening Phase Begins for 8 Land Use Proposals in Mount Vernon District

As part of the South County Site-Specific Plan Amendment (SSPA) process, **eight land use proposals (nominations)** to amend the Comprehensive Plan for sites in the Mount Vernon District will be screened by the **Mount Vernon SSPA Task Force**. SSPA is the **process that allows anyone to propose changes** to the Comprehensive Plan, which guides **land use and development decisions** in the County. **The public is invited to attend all Task Force Meetings**, where nominations will be discussed individually. In the Mount Vernon District, the first Task Force Meeting is **Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Mount Vernon Government Center.



For more information about the SSPA process, the **Task Force Meeting dates and the list of nominations**, please visit the [website](#). To submit a public comment, please email [MtVernon@FairfaxCounty.gov](mailto:MtVernon@FairfaxCounty.gov) by **Monday, April 13, 2020**, so it can be included for distribution at the **final Task Force meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 2020**.

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## 2020 U.S. Census

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## Are You Ready to be Counted?

United States®  
**Census  
2020**

The census informs how **billions of dollars** are allocated every year to **health clinics, senior services, education, job training, housing** and hundreds of other critical services and programs that we rely on every day. **For each resident who does not complete the census, it is estimated that Northern Virginia loses \$1200** in potential annually funding. In March, you will receive a **postcard in the mail** from the U.S. Census Bureau with information and directions. Complete the **simple questionnaire online, by phone or by mail**. It only takes a few minutes, but the impact will be felt for years. **Share this information with your family and friends!** [Learn why you should be counted...](#)

## Upcoming Events

- [March Arts Guide](#)
- Saturdays: [English Conversation Group](#) - 12:30 p.m.
- Mar 7: [LCAC Annual Monopoly Tournament](#) - 9 a.m.
- Mar 7: [The Man Named West Ford Dinner Theater](#) - 3 p.m.
- Mar 10: [2020 Teen Job Fair - South County](#) - 2 p.m.
- Mar 10: [South County Federation Meeting](#) - 7:30 p.m.
- Mar 11: [Mount Vernon District 2020 Paving and Restriping Meeting](#) - 6:30 p.m.
- Mar 14: [Child Safety Seat Inspections](#) - 9:30 a.m.
- Mar 14: [Kingstowne Library 2nd Saturday Book Sale](#) - 10 a.m.
- Mar 18: [DMV2GO at Sherwood Library](#) - 10 a.m.
- Mar 21: [Secure Document Shredding - Gerry Hyland Center](#) - 7 a.m.
- Mar 21: [Community Walk & Talk](#) - 9 a.m.
- Mar 21: [Staying Home: Making Smart Choices for Easy Living](#) - 9 a.m.
- Mar 21: [2020 Teen Job Fair - Mount Vernon](#) - 10 a.m.
- Mar 25: [Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Meeting](#) - 7 p.m.
- Mar 27: [FREE Tax Relief Workshops for Older Adults & People with Disabilities](#) - 10 a.m.
- Mar 29: [Ides of Bark Dog Festival](#) - 1 p.m.
- Mar 30: [DMV2GO at Hollin Hall Senior Center](#) - 9 a.m.

## In the News

### Firefighters, other Agencies Recognized for South Alex Fire Response

The South Alex fire on February 8 was **one of the biggest in County history**. It will also be remembered for the **extraordinary efforts by the Fairfax Fire and Rescue Department** — along with the **many other fire departments** that responded — to **stop the massive fire before it could spread** to nearby homes and businesses. [Read more on Covering the Corridor...](#)



### Comprehensive Plan Nominations Envision some Major Changes

A **mixed-use development** with 900 apartments where the **Belle View Shopping Center now stands**. Low- and mid-rise **apartments and a grid of streets** where the **Beacon Hill Apartments** are. New apartments and townhouses at the **corner of Richmond Highway and Sherwood Hall Lane**. Those are just a few of the ideas included in the nominations accepted by the County as part of the **South County Site-Specific Plan Amendment**

**Process.** [Read more on Covering the Corridor...](#)

### Officials break ground on Mount Vernon's new Woodlawn Fire and Rescue Station



A groundbreaking event took place on Friday, Feb. 28 for the **Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's new Woodlawn station**, now under construction on **Lukens Lane in the Mount Vernon** area. Work on **Woodlawn Fire and Rescue Station 24** by builder Scheibel Construction began in December. The architect is BKV Group. [Read more on Fort Hunt Herald...](#)



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## Meet Our BACs

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**Tammy Mannarino** is the newest Mount Vernon District appointee to the **Fairfax County History Commission**. Tammy moved into the District in 1992 when she was working as an **Information Systems Security Engineer for the National Security Agency**. She was immediately drawn to **oral histories of the area** and enjoyed stories about the **local airports, roads, homes and people**. A few years ago, she ran into **author and local historian, Michael Bohn**, who inspired her to create her own [local history website](#). Shortly afterward, she met **Glenn Fatzinger and Sallie Lyons** who were creating a **Mount Vernon Regional Historical Society** and they invited her to serve on the Board. The Society has now held **11 well-attended lectures and tours** in the community. Tammy noted, *"We just keep drawing **larger audiences with each event**. Mount Vernon area history is so rich, I don't think we'll ever run out of topics".*

Tammy is excited to be part of the History Commission which just celebrated their **50th anniversary**. She's looking forward to joining her fellow commissioners in **preserving and sharing the history** of our County. When asked what she would say to others thinking about **volunteering in their community**, Tammy states, *"Volunteering has brought me many friends over the years. When you **work side by side with people on a common area of interest**, you not only make an investment in your community but also in each other."*

In her spare time, Tammy is an **avid reader, quilter and gardener**. She loves to kayak and paddleboard on the Potomac. She volunteers with the **West Potomac HS Orchestra and Marching Band** and the Waynewood Dolphins Swim Team. She and her husband John started their family of four boys in **Bucknell Manor and have watched them grow into young men in the Waynewood Neighborhood**.

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## School News

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### High School Students Invited to Fairfax County 2020 Teen Job Fairs

High school students looking for **part-time job, summer and seasonal job opportunities**, or who want more information about **potential career pathways** are invited to attend one of six upcoming **teen job fairs and resume building workshops**. **Local businesses and agencies** will be on hand to offer a range of opportunities including part-time employment, internships and volunteer work for students.

Volunteer opportunities and resume building workshops will be available for younger students. **Free booth spaces are provided to local businesses**. Two job fairs will be held in the Mount Vernon District.

- **Saturday, March 7, 2 - 4 p.m. at South County High School**
- **Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m. - noon at Mount Vernon High School**

[Read more...](#)

### 2020 Congressional Art Competition - CALL FOR ART

Each spring, the **Congressional Institute** sponsors a **nationwide high school visual art competition** to recognize and encourage artistic talent in the nation and **in each congressional district**. Since the Artistic Discovery competition began in 1982, more than **650,000 high school students have participated**. [Learn more and enter...](#)

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# Community Information

## Interactive Story about the Historical and Current County Demographics

An [Interactive Story about the Historical and Current Demographics of Fairfax County](#) is available online. In 2019, **Economic, Demographic and Statistical Research, Department of Management and Budget**, conducted a study to understand the underlying assumptions of the **historical population change** and discuss its **economic drivers**. This study compiled **demographic data from 1790 to date**, developed a complex **statistical program for trend analysis** and tailored the output for Fairfax County's history. The results are in "[A Look to the Past](#)" **story map** that highlights how Fairfax County's population growth has **intertwined with the changes of land use, economy and advancement of technology, and how demographic diversity** has shaped Fairfax County to be **resilient and thriving**. Multiple interactive components are embedded so **readers can explore the information**. For further information, [email](#). [Information on additional resources...](#)

## County Public Library Launches "Common Ground" Campaign



Throughout 2020, Fairfax County Public Library's "**Common Ground**" campaign will explore the **concepts of community, civic engagement and American politics** to help county residents rediscover that we have **more in common with each other than we realize**. **Four system-wide events** are the core of the campaign, with library branches planning **localized lectures and workshops**. Selected books, articles, databases and websites will be shared throughout the year to **enhance the exploration of issues** on which community members and Americans in general can find common ground. [Learn more...](#)

## Library Customer Satisfaction Survey/Encuesta de Satisfacción del Cliente

**Fairfax County Public Libraries (FCPL)** want to know how they are doing! The FCPL vision is to be the essential **(re)source to inform, engage, and inspire our community**. The mission is to **build community and promote literacies** through programming, community spaces, technologies, and collections of educational and recreational resources.

### HOW ARE WE ARE DOING?

**Your satisfaction and your feedback (when we succeed and when we fail) are important to us.** [Take the survey...](#)



## Alexa – Play My Fairfax County Flash Briefing

Get your **daily dose of Fairfax County news and information** by adding the [Fairfax County Flash Briefing](#) to your **Alexa smart speaker device or mobile phone**. First, sign in to Amazon and then [visit this link](#) on desktop to **"enable" the skill** (be sure you're signed in to Amazon) and then **listen to the daily briefing** for timely and actionable news

from the County. By listening, you will hear the **latest news** from county government; event information such as **public hearings and meetings; recreational and cultural events** from parks, libraries and other county programs; and **daily tidbits** that will improve your life and the lives of your friends and family.

## EDA Launches HR and Talent Surveys

The Fairfax County **Economic Development Authority (FCEDA)** is embarking on a initiative this year to **help employers in the region attract and retain the best talent** to our region. In order to create the best solutions for talent attraction and retention, **we need to hear from two very important local audiences**: HR executives and recruiters, and Gen Z and millennials. [Read more and take the survey...](#)







Pearson Parker and the Gum Springs Historical Society present "The Man Named West Ford" in a Dinner Theater production on **March 7, 2020, at 3:00 p.m.** at Gum Springs Museum. Come **look through the window of time and experience the struggles** of a Virginia African American land holder at the start of the Civil War. **Suggested donation \$35, limited seating.** For tickets and information call 703-799-1198. Click on the image to **download the flyer.**

## Scholarship Applications Open for Chamber Business Scholarship

Applications are now available for **business scholarships** provided by **Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce**. At least **\$12,000 will be awarded** to local graduating seniors pursuing further education in business. Students may [apply online](#) or by calling 703-360-6925 to request an application. The **application deadline is Friday April 24**. Those applying for the scholarships must plan to pursue further education in a **business-related field whether academic or in the trades**, live in Lee or Mount Vernon Districts or attend one of the seven high schools in these districts. **Visit the [website](#) to view all requirements.**

## Community "Walk and Talk"

The **Audubon Naturalist Society** is hosting a community "walk and talk" on **Saturday, March 21 at 9 a.m.** (meet at 8:45 am outside of Shoppers Warehouse in the Mount Vernon Plaza off of Fordson Rd). Explore **Little Hunting Creek** directly north of the Mount Vernon Plaza with a focus on the concept of **ecological spines** and the connection of **healthier waterways creating healthier communities**. A previous "walk and talk" was done this past fall on **"Designing for Stormwater"** along the Route 1 Corridor. [Learn more and register...](#)

## FCPS to Host Free Sessions on Digital Learning and Citizenship

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) **students, families, and community members** are invited to attend any of **five upcoming digital learning and digital citizenship events**. All sessions are being held **free of charge**. [Learn more...](#)



## Looking for a career change? Look to George Mason University!

Come join our **vibrant academic and professional community!** You will be surrounded by people whose ideas are **shaping tomorrow's workforce**. George Mason University is the **largest and most diverse public university** in Virginia, reaching out beyond our campuses to **create connections and forge partnerships** across the region, the nation, and the world. Mason offers a **competitive benefits package** and is committed to providing flexibility, work/life options, and the opportunity for personal and professional development. [Learn more...](#)

# Supporting Our Seniors

## Staying Home: Making Smart Choices for Easy Living

**Small changes in your home can make a big difference in your life.** They can make your home a space that enables you to **thrive as your living situation changes** and make life easier for visitors to your home—from grandchildren to adult children and friends.

**Attend this free workshop** to find out how simple changes to your home can create an environment where everyone is welcome, and everyone can flourish. **Saturday, March 21 from 9 a.m. - noon** at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Alexandria. Click on the image to **download the flyer**. [More info and to register...](#)



Staying Home: Making Smart Choices for Easy Living

Small changes in your home can make a big difference in your life. They can make your home a space that enables you to thrive as your living situation changes and make life easier for visitors to your home—from grandchildren to adult children and friends. Attend this free workshop to find out how simple changes to your home can create an environment where everyone is welcome, and everyone can flourish.

AARP is teaming up with Rebuilding Together AARP and Fairfax County Department of Family Services to bring you **Staying Home: Making Smart Choices for Easy Living**.

**Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints  
4211 Vicksburg, Alexandria, VA 22304

**RSVP online at <https://www.aarp.org/2020/03/18/staying-home-2020/> or call 1-877-926-8300**

This free community workshop includes resources and will share practical tips to minimize the financial costs of home modifications and to keep your home safe and healthy. County exhibitors will be on hand to share information about local resources available.

Downloadable accommodations will be provided upon request. For more information, please contact: [Charles.Hughes@fcps.edu](mailto:Charles.Hughes@fcps.edu) or 703-646-7777.

Downloadable accommodations will be provided upon request. For more information, please contact: [Charles.Hughes@fcps.edu](mailto:Charles.Hughes@fcps.edu) or 703-646-7777.

**50+**

## Free 2020 Tax Relief Workshops for Older Adults and People with Disabilities

The County Board of Supervisors is hosting a series of **free tax relief workshops** at several locations throughout the County. **Real estate and vehicle tax relief is available** for older adults over **65 years of age and people with disabilities** who meet certain qualifications. Staff from the the County Department of Tax Administration (DTA) will be at several locations to **assist with filling out the application form**, as well as **answering questions**. [Find dates and locations of the workshops...](#)

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## Saving Our Environment

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### Home Energy Awareness

Home is where the heart is. It's also **where the energy bills are**. From month to month, your **electricity or natural gas bill can change dramatically**, depending on how you're using energy at home. The **first step to reducing your bills is energy awareness**, and it's easier than you think. Check out the resources in the link below and take control of your home energy use and spending.

[Hone Your Home Energy Awareness: Seven Steps to Lower Bills..](#)

### Fairfax County Begins Transition Away from Plastic Yard Waste Bags

This spring the County will **begin phasing out the use of plastic bags for yard waste** collection. This decision aligns with the County's environmental vision and was made to **reduce the amount of plastic** in our natural environment.

The change applies to **private collection companies' customers** (90 percent of the County) as well as residents living in the **County's solid waste collection areas**. With this change, the County joins **seven neighboring jurisdictions** in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area that already **discourage or prohibit** the use of plastic bags for yard waste. [Read more...](#)



## Year of the Woman

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### Fairfax County Women's History Month 2020: Celebrating Valiant Women Of The Vote

In recognition of **Women's History Month 2020**, the Fairfax County Commission for Women is hosting a reception **Tuesday, March 10 from 8:30-9:30 a.m.** in the Fairfax County Government Center forum. The official **Women's**

**History Month 2020 Proclamation** will follow this reception at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Auditorium. This event is free but [registration is required by Thursday, March 5](#). [Read more...](#)

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## Team MVD

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*Mount Vernon District Staff: Abdul Shaban, Donna Slaymaker, Sally Kidalov, Supervisor Dan Storck, Christine Morin, Camela Speer & Volunteer Shirley Short.*

#### **February 2020 Activities:**

- Phone calls: 912
- Meetings: 129

#### **Stay Connected:**

Mount Vernon Governmental Center  
2511 Parkers Lane  
Mount Vernon, VA 22306  
703-780-7518 (TTY 711) 703-780-1491 (fax)  
[mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov)

#### **Office Hours**

Monday - Wednesday, Friday:  
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Second Saturday Each Month (except August)  
Lorton Library: 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  
MV District Office: 12:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.  
Walk-ins and by appointment

#### **Looking for a Summer Internship?**

Are you, or do you know a **college student, looking for a summer internship** in local government? Join our **dynamic TEAM MVD working for the residents** of the Mount Vernon District. Get an up-close look at **how local government works**, learn about constituent issues and how to resolve them, all while gaining **valuable real-world work experience**. If you would like to be considered, please send your **resume and a cover letter** outlining your interests to [mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov) by **April 30**.

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## **Boards, Authorities and Commissions**

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Help **serve your community** by serving on a Fairfax County Board, Authority or Commission (BAC). Please ask your friends, neighbors and community members if they are willing to help serve Fairfax County.

There are **several At-Large positions** available as of February 2020 on County BACs.

- Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board (Engineer/Architect Rep)
- Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board (Lending Institution Rep)
- Alcohol Safety Action Program Local Policy Board (ASAP)
- Athletic Council (Women's Sports Alternate Rep)
- Board of Building and Fire Prevention Code Appeals (Design Professional)
- Civil Service Commission
- Engineering Standard Review Committee
- History Commission (Historian)
- Human Rights Commissio
- Road Viewer Board
- Tenant Landlord Commission (3 openings - Citizen Member, Condo Owner, Landlord Member & Tenant Member)

[Learn more about these BACs...](#)

Volunteering on these committees **increases citizen participation in our District**. If you are interested in serving on a county board, authority, commission, or committee (BAC), please provide a current résumé to [Donna.Slaymaker@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Donna.Slaymaker@fairfaxcounty.gov). For more

information, please download the [brochure](#) for a brief guide to BACs, or learn more on the [County website](#). You can also **check out the [County's Volunteer Management System](#) for information** on these and **other volunteer opportunities near you.**

Visit our website

Mount Vernon District Office | 703-780-7518  
MTVernon@fairfaxcounty.gov | FairfaxCounty.gov/MountVernon

STAY CONNECTED

