

RETIREE Report

A Semi-Annual Publication from the
Fairfax County Retirement Administration Agency
Designed for County Government & County School Retirees

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/retirement/

COLAs

Effective July 1, 2009

Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) for retirees and DROP participants in the Employees', Police Officers and Uniformed Retirement Systems will be effective July 1, 2009.

Fairfax County Code for the Employees', Police Officers and Uniformed Retirement Systems includes a provision for a standard annual COLA that is equal to the lesser of 4.0% and the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for the period ending in March of each year. This year, the increase in the CPI-U was 0.4%. Therefore, this year's standard COLA for Fairfax County members is 0.4%.

Cost of living increases will be reflected in retiree payments on July 31, 2009. As a reminder, COLAs apply only to base benefits and not any pre-social security benefits.

COLAs, effective July 1, 2009, for members of each of the Fairfax County Retirement Systems are as follows:

- Employees = 0.4%
- Uniformed = 0.4%
- Police Officers = 0.4%

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HIPAA Privacy Notice Available

The Fairfax County health plan is committed to insuring the privacy of protected health information for employees and their dependents enrolled in the plan. Under the terms of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), employees and retirees must be notified every three years regarding how to obtain copies of the County health plan's "Notice of Privacy Practices." These notices are available from HR Central at 703-324-3311. ★

Long-Term Care Information

COMING SOON

Later this summer, General County retirees will receive a mailing from Prudential about Long-Term Care Benefits

Fairfax County's long-term care insurance vendor is changing – Prudential will be replacing Aetna as the long-term care insurance vendor on December 1, 2009. Current participants may continue their Aetna coverage or transfer to Prudential. Prudential will provide detailed plan comparison information to Aetna participants in mid-August. Aetna participants will need to elect the Prudential coverage if they choose to change. Retirees with current Aetna coverage will not be automatically mapped to Prudential.

Retirees not enrolled in the Aetna plan will have an opportunity to enroll in the Prudential Plan without underwriting during a special open enrollment period in the fall. Additional information will follow in upcoming weeks. ★

There will be a special open enrollment period in early fall, so watch your mailbox for information.

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How to Create an Account in WEB MEMBER SERVICES

Web Member Services (WMS) allows retirees (Benefit Recipients) to view online information about their benefit payroll history, deductions, and other useful information. The information lags the production database by one month but includes each retiree's most recent pay advice as well as previous months' advices.

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov

★ Under **Related Links**, click on the link for **"Member Area: Secure Log In"**

★ The first time you visit the **Member Area**, you will need to establish a log-in identification name and password by clicking on **"Need an Account?"**

While you can view information in WMS, you cannot make any changes. If you need to make changes to your deductions, tax withholdings or any other data in your record, please contact the Retirement Agency. ★

If you have any questions, please e-mail the Retirement Agency at retirementquestions@fairfaxcounty.gov

PensionGold® Web Member Servi...

Fairfax County Retirement Administration Agency

Welcome to Fairfax County Retirement Administration Agency's Web Member Services!

This service has been designed for the Members and Payees of the Fairfax County Retirement Administration Agency to assist you in the planning and management of your retirement benefit. It offers you access to some interactive services that can help you become more involved and better informed about your benefit.

Active Members can access the following information:

- Account Summary
- Demographic Information
- Benefit Estimator
- Beneficiary Information

Benefit recipients can also view the following information:

- Benefit Payroll History
- Year-To-Date Totals
- 1099-R Information
- Federal Tax Withholding
- State Tax Withholding
- Deductions
- Insurance Deduction
- Direct Deposit
- Federal Tax Reporting Documents
- Beneficiary Information

First time users can click on the "Need an Account?" link on the left hand side of this page. This will guide you through the process of setting up your user name and password to access your information.

We hope you will use and enjoy this service.

Click Here to establish an account

After establishing an account with a Username and Password, you are ready to begin. Insert that information in the blanks on this page and click the "Login" box.

RETIREMENT ASSOCIATIONS

Please keep your Retirement Association informed of address and phone number changes!

The Retirement Associations frequently request updated contact information for Fairfax County retirees. Due to privacy considerations, we are unable to provide them with that sort of requested information for their mailings. If you are already a member, or interested in becoming a member, please keep them informed of address and phone number updates. For information on membership or to change your address, contact:

Fairfax County Retired Employees Association

Marge Quick, 703-368-2998
Annual Dues is \$5.00
Lifetime Membership is \$50.00

Fairfax County Retired Police Association

James Covell, 703-426-2781
COVEL648@erols.com
Annual Dues: \$15.00



Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Retirement Association

Louis Berkeszi: 703-922-7311
louis@englesidecarcare.com
Annual Dues is \$24.00



F Y I

County Begins Using Recycled Paper

According to the Purchasing Department, the county government consumes 80 million pages of copy paper each year.

Each employee prints an average of 5,000 sheets per year.

While most employees use the county's recycle bins, until recently, the county-purchased paper contained no recycled content.

Effective July 1, 2009 the county began purchasing 30 percent recycled content paper from Office Depot.

Did You Know?

- In 2008, a record-high 57.4 percent of the paper consumed in the U.S. was recovered for recycling. This impressive figure equals 340 pounds for each man, woman, and child in America.
- Every day, U.S. papermakers recycle enough paper to fill a 15 mile long train of boxcars.
- Every ton of paper that is recovered saves 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space.
- Recovered paper accounts for more than 36 percent of fiber used to make new paper products in the U.S.

~Source: American Forest & Paper Association

There's More . . .

- Over 90% of paper made in America is still made from trees.
- For every 20 cases of recycled paper substituted for non-recycled paper, you save 17 trees, 390 gallons of oil, 7,000 gallons of water, and 4,100 kWh of energy.

~Source: Bay Area Recycling Outreach Coalition

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S U M M E R 2 0 0 9

Fairfax County
Retirement Administration Agency
10680 Main Street, Suite 280
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/retirement/

For retirees over the age of 60, with County CareFirst insurance coverage, the Shingles vaccine is a covered expense. To ensure your benefit, please follow the procedure below:

If your doctor recommends that you have the Shingles vaccine, you should contact Walgreens at 1-866-525-1589. At the time you call Walgreens, be prepared to give the call-taker your name, address, insurance information, and the name and phone number of the doctor ordering the vaccine. From there, Walgreens will contact your doctor's office for the script, and go through the insurance verification process with CareFirst and then will follow up with you, the member.

Walgreens will work directly with your doctor's office for a delivery date of the vaccine. Under the POS plan, the vaccine will be covered at 100% after the office visit co-payment. Under the PPO, the vaccine will be covered at 90%. Remember, for this coverage to apply, you must be utilizing an in-network doctor with CareFirst. Otherwise, out of network benefits would apply -- \$250 deductible and 30% coinsurance.

Fairfax County Government retirees with additional questions can contact Betsi Fuhrman at 703-324-3474. Fairfax County School retirees, with insurance through the school system, should call the number on the back of their ID card if they have additional questions. ★

COLAs

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Please Note:

For members who have retired or entered DROP during the current fiscal year, COLAs are prorated as shown below according to the effective dates of retirement or DROP entry:

July 2, 2008 and October 1, 2008	75%
of the COLA amount	
October 2, 2008 and January 1, 2009	50% COLA
January 2, 2009 and April 1, 2009.....	25% COLA
After April 1, 2009	0% COLA

