



## A message from Kathy Smith

Rain, rain, go away! The National Weather Service has issued a Flood Watch for our area for potential flooding from heavy rain from now into Saturday, May 19. Please do not attempt to cross flooded roadways. Read below for information about how to stay safe in this wet weather.

The deadline to update your voter registration or to register to vote for the June 12 primaries is **Monday, May 21**. Not sure where your polling place is? Try the [My Neighborhood](#) app! This application will not only tell you your polling place, it also lists your voting precinct and who your current local and state elected officials are. More information about the primary election is below in the "Reminders" section.

In this week's newsletter you will find information about a new program to help small businesses, how Fairfax County treats wastewater, and much more.

Sincerely,

*Kathy*

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# Reminders!

## Primary Elections:

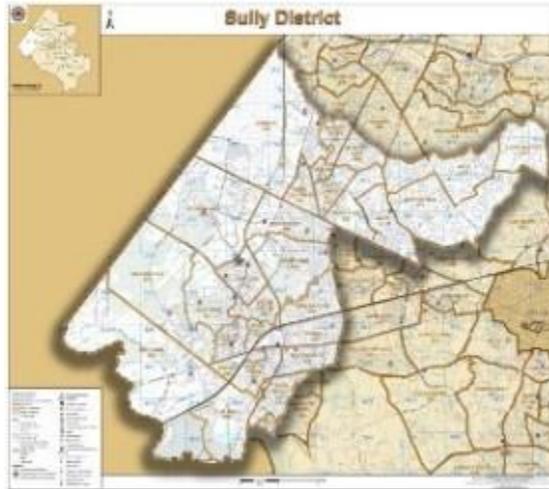
Fairfax County is holding primary elections on Tuesday, June 12 and absentee voting is currently underway. **The deadline to update your voter registration or to register to vote for the June 12 primaries is Monday, May 21.**

### In-Person Absentee Voting -

- **Location:** Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 2/3
- **Dates:** April 27 – June 9
- **Times:**
  - Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
  - Thursdays, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
  - Saturdays (April 28, June 2 and June 9), 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- On **June 9** there are [nine satellite voting locations](#) available for in-person absentee voting from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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## Sully Land Use Spotlight



### Upcoming Meetings:

#### Planning Commission -

The Planning Commission will meet on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) in the Board Auditorium. There are no Sully cases on the agenda. Click [here](#) to view the agenda for the meeting.

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## Events at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park



### [Walney Through the Years](#)

**Saturday, May 19**

**1:00 p.m.**

Join us for a free celebration of the past and future of Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. Mingle with reenactors, get up close and personal with animals, and explore the lives of the residents of Walney farm. Play games, take a wagon ride, and try your hand at crafts and past-times of the past. Ages: 3 and older. Cost: Free.

### [Victory in Europe Ice Cream Social](#)

**Monday, May 28**

**1:00 p.m.**

In 1945 when World War II ended in Europe, America celebrated! Join our celebration at the Spindle House in Historic Centreville Park on the 77th anniversary of this event! Crank home-made ice cream, spot airplanes, pose like Rosie the Riveter, and learn about other ways residents of Fairfax County helped support the War effort. Then tour the Spindle Sears House. Bring your own picnic.

**Located at 5714 Mt. Gilead Road, Centreville, VA.** Ages: 5 and older. Cost: Free.

[Ellanor C. Lawrence Park](#) is located at 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly, VA. For more information please call 703-631-0013; TTY 711 or email [parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov).

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## **Volunteer Opportunity in Sully**



### [Summer Reading Program Volunteer](#) (Centreville Regional Library)

**Description:** Helps to ensure a successful Summer Reading Program by assisting with registration, programs, and other related tasks.

Volunteers **MUST** attend one training session, even if you have previously volunteered:

- Thursday, May 31 at 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, June 2 at 11:00 a.m.

**Duties:** Registers students for the Summer Reading Program. Explains program requirements, answers questions, and ensures students understand the program. Enthusiastically congratulates finishers and provides completion materials. Helps as needed with programs including: room set-up and take-down, crowd control, and providing other assistance as needed. Sorts carts and straightens materials in the children's section of the library. Performs other related duties as assigned. Reports volunteer hours promptly and accurately.

**Qualification:** Must be at least 12 years old and in middle school. Responsible, prompt and focused. Strong work ethic and professional attitude in the workplace. Enthusiasm for libraries. Good communication skills and ability to interact well with children. Willingness to follow directions and perform assigned tasks. After training, ability to complete tasks with little supervision.

**Time Commitment:** You will be expected to volunteer 2 hours per week between June 16 and August 24.

**Additional Info:** Space is limited to the first 30 applicants. Must be a rising 7th grader - 12th grader between the ages of 12-18. Volunteers will have a set weekly schedule. Scheduling will be done on a first come, first serve basis, based on when your application is received and will be finalized at the end of each training session. Please note that your application does not guarantee a place in the volunteer program.

**Location:**

Centreville Regional Library  
14200 St. Germain Drive  
Centreville, VA 20121

**Contact:**

Kerri Zuiker

[kerri.zuiker@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:kerri.zuiker@fairfaxcounty.gov)

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## **7 Tips to Stay Safe and Make the Most of Our Rainy Forecast**



The National Weather Service has issued a Flood Watch for the potential for flooding from heavy rain. **Localized areas of flooding of small streams and urban areas are possible into Saturday, May 19.**

Here are seven things for you to know to stay safe – and maybe even have some rainy day fun – until the sun comes out again.

### **1. Turn Around, Don't Drown**

If you're out and about in the rain, please be careful and keep in mind that swift water rescues can be needed in our county when roads flood. **Any time you come**

**to a flooded road, walkway or path, follow this simple rule: Turn Around, Don't Drown.**

People often underestimate the force and power of water, especially when it is moving.

- Just 6 inches of fast-moving water can knock over and carry off an adult.
- 12 inches of water can float a small car. If the water is moving, it can carry the car away.
- 18 to 24 inches of flowing water can carry away most vehicles, including large SUVs.

**It is impossible to tell the exact depth of water covering a roadway or the condition of the road below the water.** This is especially true **at night when your vision is more limited.** It is never safe to drive or walk through floodwaters.

## **2. Keep Kids Away from Creeks**

**Do not allow children to play near creeks** or other bodies of water that may rise rapidly. Many of our local waterways and creeks will likely experience some flooding, so keep kids away.

## **3. Clear Storm Drains and Gutters**

Many of our storm drains and gutters may be covered in debris from the recent storms. **If it is safe to do so, clear debris from storm drains, gutters and other areas around your home that, if clogged, could cause flooding.**

## **4. Stay Informed**

Be sure to [sign up for Fairfax Alerts](#) and get the latest local watches, warnings and

weather updates sent to your various devices. If you own a smartphone and if a dangerous situation warrants based on your location, you will receive [Wireless Emergency Alerts](#), which are usually sent by the National Weather Service. Wireless Emergency Alerts come with a distinct ringtone and vibration pattern in order to get your attention.

Remember that we do need the rain! Here are few ways to make the most of our precipitation.

## 5. Make or Buy a Rain Barrel

Ready to take advantage of all this rain? **Rain barrels can be placed under downspouts to capture runoff from the roof** with these benefits:

- **Provide your plants with water** they will love. Unlike treated water, which is “softened” with dissolved minerals, **rain water is naturally soft**. The water stored in your rain barrel is better for washing your car and watering indoor or outdoor plants.
- **Save money and water**. Instead of water from the tap or faucet, you can use the water you’ve saved to keep your home landscape happy and growing. You’ll also reduce your water bill!
- **Protect the Chesapeake Bay**. By decreasing the volume of storm runoff, rain barrels also help moderate stream erosion and the resulting pollution that is impairing the Chesapeake Bay.
- The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District offers **build-your-own workshops** during the spring and early summer. There’s still time to [register for the last workshop of the season](#) on Saturday, June 9.

## 6. Create a Rain Garden

**Rain gardens improve landscape aesthetics and help drain stormwater in an environmentally friendly and natural way.** However, it's important to plan a rain garden properly. For example, just because you have a persistently soaked spot in your lawn does not mean it would make a great rain garden. Learn how to [create a rain garden that works for your location](#).

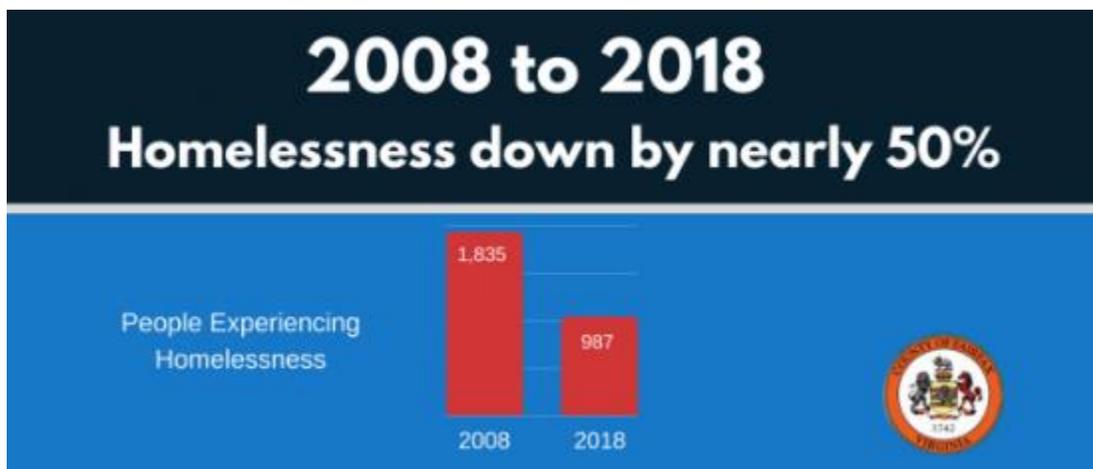
## 7. Green Spring Gardens in the Rain

What's that saying about not waiting for the storm to pass? Wet weather is supposed to continue through early next week, but don't let that stop you from getting the kiddos out to Green Spring Gardens, where **children ages 2 and 3 can get outside and enjoy the gardens rain or shine** through the [Garden Buds program](#). Cost is \$5.

And don't forget the **annual Spring Garden Day Plant Sale** this Saturday, May 19!

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## Homelessness Down Nearly 50% in Last Decade



During the last 10 years through a collaborative effort by our county government, nonprofits and faith organizations, we have reduced homelessness in Fairfax County by almost 50 percent.

During our annual 2018 Point in Time Count, 987 people were reported as being homeless. During the 2008 Point in Time Count, there were 1,835 people who were reported as experiencing homelessness.

There was a slight increase this year from the 2017 Point in Time Count, which reported 964 people experiencing homelessness.

[Read the 2018 Point in Time Count Report](#)

Here's what we found this year during the Point in Time Count, which took place in the Fairfax County-Falls Church area on the night of Jan. 24:

- 987 people were reported homeless, including 488 in families and 499 single adults.
- For families who were homeless due to domestic violence, the number of families increased 18 percent, for a total of 71 families in 2018, compared with 60 families in 2017.
- 221 single adults, or 44 percent total, were reported as suffering from serious mental illness and/or substance abuse. This was similar to 2017.
- 146 single adults were more than 55 years old, a decrease from 155 older adults counted in 2017.

To read the full article, please visit:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/homelessness-down-nearly-50-percent-in-last-decade/>.

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## Video: What You Need to Know About Fox Management



For more information about native wildlife and wildlife management please contact the Fairfax County Wildlife Management Specialist, [Dr. Katherine Edwards](#) at 703-246-6868.

For information on managing wildlife interactions and resolving human-wildlife conflicts, the Virginia Wildlife Conflict Helpline is available toll-free at 855-571-9003, 8:00 a.m to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. This helpline is a collaborative effort between the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Wildlife Services.

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## New BizEx Program Helps Small Businesses Successfully Navigate Fairfax County's Regulatory Processes



Small businesses now have a one-stop shop to get help understanding Fairfax County's permit, review, inspection and license processes.

The new [Business Experience program](#)—or BizEx for short—can assist prospective small businesses or current ones that want to grow, expand or evolve.

BizEx can advise and guide businesses on:

- Things to consider when selecting a location
- What permits/processes are required
- What licenses are needed

- Connections to other county and state resources

The program offers guidance on regulatory process and procedures that include:

- Zoning
- Site plan and inspections
- Building plans, permits and inspections
- Parking requirements
- Sign permits
- Licenses and taxes

*“I like to tell people to talk to us first before you sign a lease,”* says Meaghan Kiefer, BizEx program manager. *“We want to help you start or grow your business, and like a concierge, we can offer you valuable tips and guidance.”*

The service isn’t designed to take the place of professional consultants like brokers, architects or engineers, offer legal advice or answer specific technical questions. However, BizEx can chart the path forward.

*“Small business owners don’t necessarily know the regulatory path to follow to make their vision a reality—nor should they be expected to know,”* Kiefer says. *“We have a lot of distinctions in our processes that first-time business owner may not understand. BizEx can help them ask for the right thing or connect them with the right county staff who can assist them.”*

Not only is the program important to help small businesses, it also is critical to the county’s economic success, say officials. While Fairfax is the headquarters for 10 Fortune 500 companies, the vast majority of companies in the county are small ones. Of the more than 37,500 businesses in the county, 94 percent have fewer than 50 employees.

To get help today, contact BizEx [by email](#), or call 703-324-2694; TTY 711.

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## Keep Looking When Cooking



Preparing and cooking food is the leading cause of home fires and related burn injuries.

Unattended cooking accounts for 33 percent of these types of fires. Planning ahead; however, can reduce your risk for a kitchen fire. Here are some useful cooking tips:

- Be attentive and alert while cooking
- Keep your stove area clear of towels, papers, pot holders - anything that can burn
- Enforce a "kid free zone" around your stove
- Turn handles inward to prevent small hands from knocking over hot pans

- Unplug appliances when not in use
- Keep a fire extinguisher handy

In addition to these tips, it is always important to have properly installed and maintained smoke alarms. For more safety information, visit

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems/educational-topics>.

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## **Taking Eww Out of Our Water; Things to Know About Wastewater Management**



Nature doesn't create new water, it is just recycled – we are using the same water that has been here for millions of years. The same water that has been used for drinking, cleaning, cooking, bathing, etc. The water that we use and discard is called wastewater.

Our lives would not be sustainable if our untreated wastewater – a potent stew of sewage, used cooking oil, chemical detergents, bacteria, pathogens and excess nutrients – was released directly into the environment. Water-borne diseases like

cholera and typhoid would spread quickly and our ecology would be destroyed.

The good news is that modern technology for the treatment of wastewater ensures that we rarely think about the water going down the drain. Even better news is that Fairfax County's program ranks as one of the most reliable in the country. It is recognized annually by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies as a Platinum Peak Performer and we have the highest level of certification by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. Our county government is committed to a resilient, efficient and affordable wastewater treatment program.

[Read 2018 Wastewater Management Program Report](#)

To read the full article, please visit: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/taking-eww-out-of-our-water-5-things-to-know-about-wastewater-management/>.

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## Know the Symptoms of Heat-Related Illness

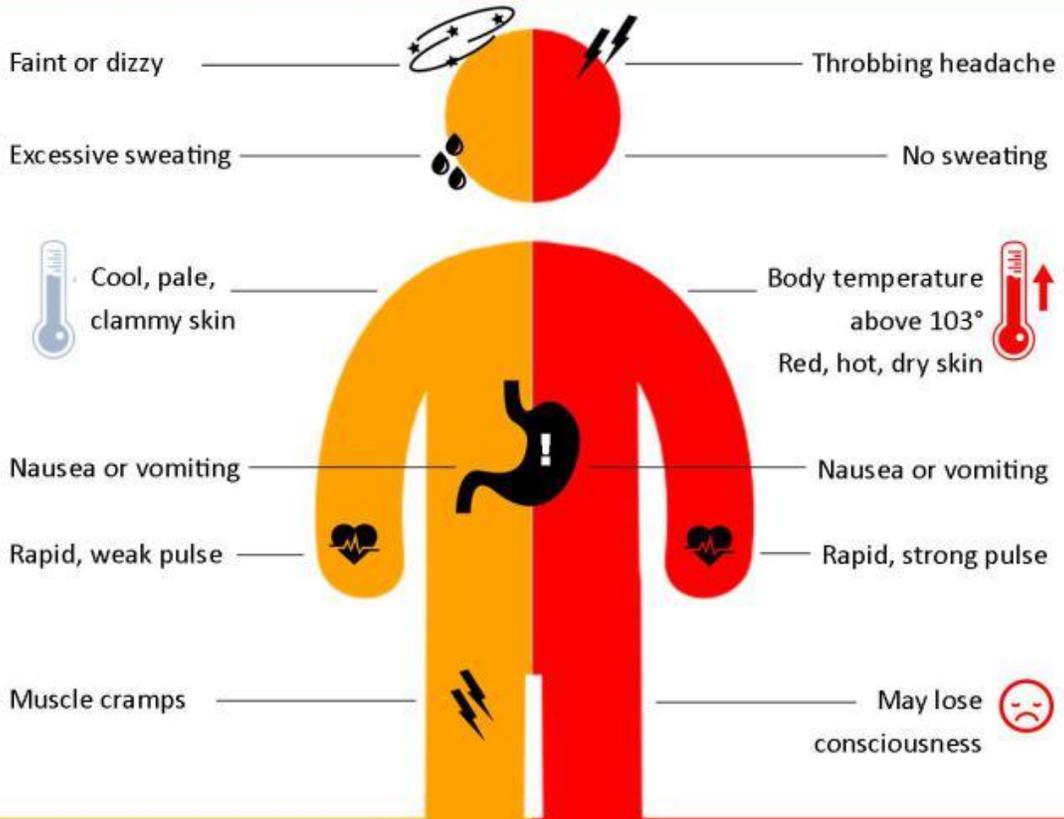
Warm weather is here! These conditions are potentially dangerous and it is important that county residents know the warning signs and symptoms of heat illness and the appropriate responses.

Below is an info-graphic from our friends at the [National Weather Service](#). An accessible version can be found here: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/heat/heat-illness.shtml>.

# HEAT EXHAUSTION

OR

# HEAT STROKE



- Get to a cooler, air conditioned place
- Drink water if fully conscious
- Take a cool shower or use cold compresses

## CALL 9-1-1

- Take immediate action to cool the person until help arrives

 [Weather.gov/socialmedia](https://www.weather.gov/socialmedia)  
[Weather.gov/heat](https://www.weather.gov/heat)



 [@SacramentoOES](https://twitter.com/SacramentoOES)  
[SacramentoReady.org](https://www.SacramentoReady.org)

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## Animal Shelter Corner



### Meet Alexa!

**Age:** 10y

**Gender:** Female

**Color:** Grey / White

**Spayed/Neutered:** Yes

**Size:** Large

Alexa is a beautiful girl who loves being with her people. You would never believe that she is 10 years old because she has so much spirit and just loves going for walks and exploring everything around her. The Fairfax County

Animal Shelter adopted her to a wonderful person about a year ago. Unfortunately, her adopter became ill and can no longer care for her. She would really like to find a loving adopter, patient adopter who is home a good amount of time during the day. Her previous owner said she did great with other dogs and went to the dog park regularly. The shelter does recommend that she meet any potential doggy siblings, though, just to make sure they get along. For more information about Alexa, please contact the Fairfax County Animal Shelter at 703-830-1100 or by email [animalshelter@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:animalshelter@fairfaxcounty.gov).



**SULLY DISTRICT  
SUMMER OPEN HOUSE  
& FOOD DRIVE**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
**WESTERN FAIRFAX  
CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES**

**DONATE!**  
Bring non-perishable  
food items

**LEARN!**  
Park Authority Volunteer Opportunities  
How Fairfax tap water is produced  
Mosquito and Tick disease prevention  
Summer REC Center Class Info

**TOUR!**  
Sully Governmental Center  
Flatlick Stream Valley Park

**MEET!**  
Supervisor Kathy Smith  
and her staff

**June 2, 2018  
10AM-2PM**

**See You There!**  
**4900 STONECROFT BLVD.  
CHANTILLY, VA 20151**

Logos: TWFCM, CLEAN Fairfax, Fairfax Water, Fairfax County