



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CONTACT: David A. Mekarski, AICP, Town Manager
dmekarski@purcellvilleva.gov; 540-338-7421

ACTIVE THREAT DRILL IN PURCELLVILLE ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2019

PURCELLVILLE, Va. October 3, 2019 –The Loudoun County Sheriff’s Office (LCSO) and the Loudoun County Combined Fire and Rescue System (LC-CFRS) will be holding a full-scale, emergency drill on **Thursday, October 10, 2019 from approximately 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** in and around Patrick Henry College in Purcellville.

The exercise will focus on emergency response to an active threat on campus in collaboration with local public safety partners, local area hospitals and Patrick Henry College staff and security. The goal of this exercise is to assess the readiness of all of our public safety agencies to assure a coordinated, timely and effective response and recovery in the event of a major incident here in Loudoun County.

There will be significant law enforcement, fire and emergency service present during the exercise. In order to avoid any concern, panic or confusion, all agencies are working together to ensure that the public is notified ahead of time. Variable message boards will be placed along roads in the immediate area leading up to and on the day of the exercise. Additionally, messages will be issued via social media, Nextdoor, and Alert Loudoun. Please be advised the exercise is closed to the general public.

During the exercise, law enforcement will be located at the entrance to Patrick Henry College off of Berlin Turnpike and strategically located around the immediate area to assist with any traffic delays. Staging areas for drill participants include other locations in the Town of Purcellville.

In addition to LCSO and LC-CFRS, local agencies participating in the exercise include Purcellville Police Department; Leesburg Police Department; Virginia State Police; Loudoun County Fire Marshal’s Office, Inova Loudoun Hospital Cornwall; Inova Loudoun Hospital Lansdowne; Stone Springs Hospital Center, Loudoun County Office of Emergency Management; Loudoun County Parks and Recreation; and Air Care Helicopter Medevac service.

Questions regarding this training exercise can be directed to Lt. Barry Dufek by email at bdufek@purcellvilleva.gov or by phone 540-338-7422x104.

The Town of Purcellville, Virginia

“Purcellville–your small Town, where history and progress intersect and people prosper,” is an award-winning town of over 10,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 50 miles west of Washington, DC. Having received the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities, Purcellville continues to be honored for its green initiatives with most recently being the Tree City USA recipient for the 12th year. The Town was reaffirmed as a AAA rated community by S&P Global Ratings, the highest credit rating possible, and is recognized as one of the safest towns in Virginia. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, which has been converted to a multi-use trail from Alexandria, VA to Purcellville, the town has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, equestrian activities, farmer’s markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at www.purcellvilleva.gov.

###