

# NOVA PUBLIC SAFETY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2021



NOVA Police host international students participating in the Community College Initiative Program (2019 photo)

## In this Issue:

- **Penelope's COVID Safety Tip**
- **New NOVA Police Training Announcement**
- **Gas: Deadly but Silent**
- **Check Out the Big Brain on Penelope**
- **NOVA Police: What we are doing these days?**
- **COVID-19 or Allergies?**
- **NOVA Police Virtual Training Opportunities**

## Penelope's COVID Safety Tip

Penelope the NOVA Police Cat's COVID Safety Tip:

Remember to wash your hands frequently and maintain social distance.



Download the **FREE** LiveSafe Mobile Safety App

Police can be reached 24/7/365 @ **(703) 764-5000**

[NOVApolice@nvcc.edu](mailto:NOVApolice@nvcc.edu)

[NOVApdoutreach@nvcc.edu](mailto:NOVApdoutreach@nvcc.edu)

## NOVA Police Announce New Training Initiative

COVID restrictions on face-to-face meetings have reduced opportunities for NOVA Police to conduct training that empowers you to keep yourself safe.

In order to provide this important information to you, NOVA Police are initiating a monthly virtual training program open to all NOVA faculty, students and staff.

This month's training will take place on May 18 and 26 at 1300 hours and cover what to do if you are involved in an active shooter incident. Although active shooters rarely attack college campuses, they attack places of business, malls, houses of worship and outdoor events. This training will review general survival strategies and specific steps you can take to develop your personal survival plan.

If you have any questions and to sign up, please contact [NOVApdoutreach@nvcc.edu](mailto:NOVApdoutreach@nvcc.edu).

### Gas: Deadly but Silent

Natural gas is a colorless, odorless fuel. For safety reasons, a chemical odorant called "mercaptan" is added for easy detection. This odorant has a distinctive "rotten egg" scent.

Natural gas odors should be reported immediately to NOVA Dispatch (703-764-5000).

If you smell this odor, alert others and leave the area immediately. Do not try to locate the source of the leak. Leave the doors open as you exit outside and move to a designated assembly area, indicated by a red flag. Remain out of the roadway for your safety and so as not to hinder arriving responders.



## Check Out the Big Brain On Penelope



Penelope is so smart, she often amazes herself. Now let her amaze you with these little-known facts, and remember, reading the Public Safety Newsletter makes you smarter.

- The French territory of Louisiana was purchased by the United States in 1803 for about four cents per acre.
- Aulophobia is an exaggerated or irrational fear of flutes.
- It takes light 8 minutes to reach the Earth from the Sun. (Darkness gets here a little sooner.)
- There is a village in Norway called Hell, and it freezes over every winter. Hell, Michigan is a bit closer to home. (Penelope has been there on her motorcycle!)
- A group of flamingos is called a “flamboyance”. (Penelope thinks they go well with pink lemonade.)

## Do You Know What Your NOVA Police are Doing These Days?

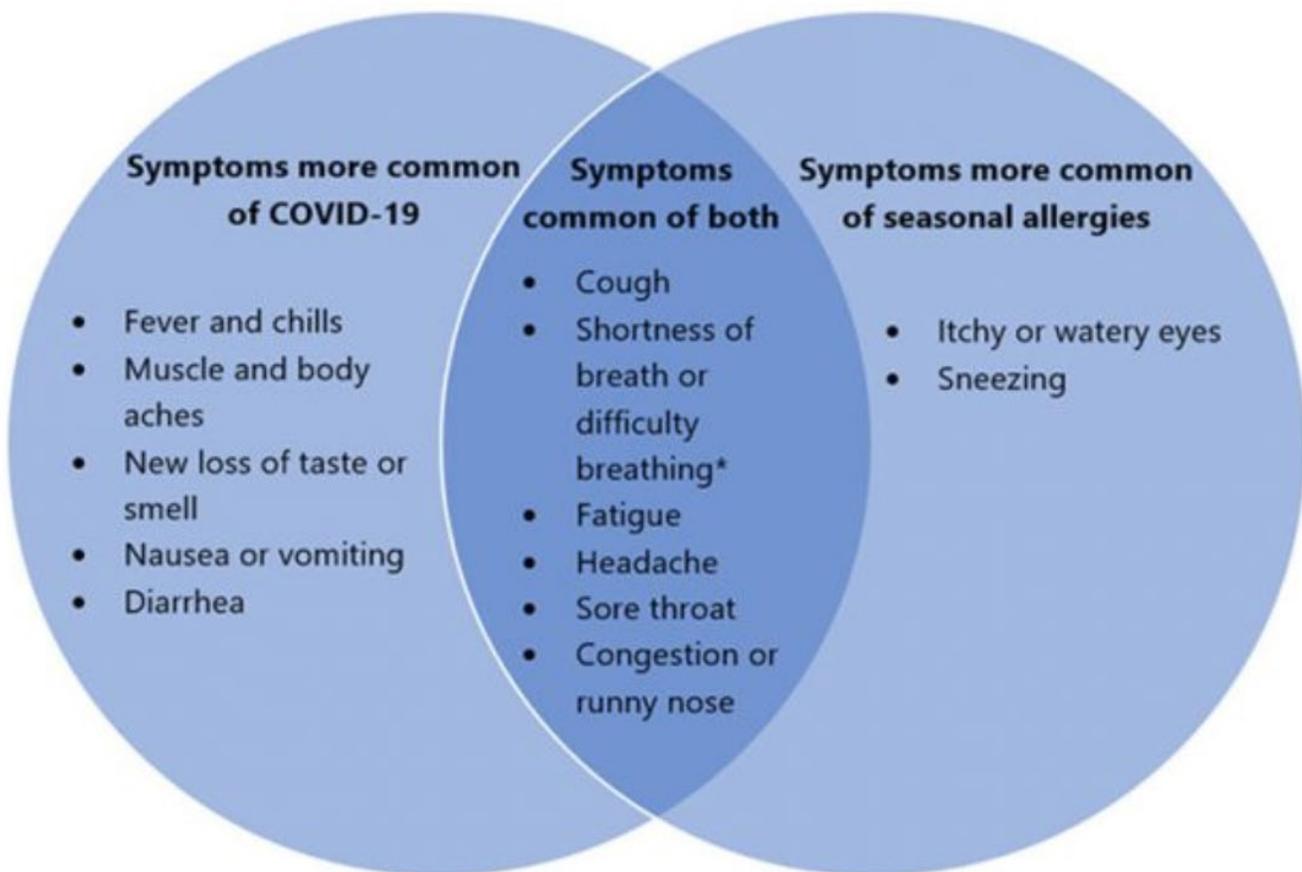
While most members of the NOVA community have been working and studying virtually instead of being on campus, your NOVA Police have continued patrolling the campuses and responding to calls for service.

The number of calls for service has certainly declined but our officers have been busy doing a host of other activities:

- We delivered a keynote address for a book launch in Australia (virtual).
  - We conducted training at two police academies for new and veteran officers, the latter from different agencies.
  - Our supervisors completed training on threat assessment.
  - We have published (or have had accepted for publication) ten articles in professional magazines.
  - We have conducted more than 20 virtual training sessions for campus members since January.
  - We have hired and trained several new officers.
  - We have conducted a week-long session to train new firearms instructors from 7 different agencies.
  - We are conducting our annual all-hands active shooter tactical response training for our officers.
  - Penelope the NOVA Police Cat continues to rock the Instagram world.
  - We are updating NOVA security officer professional training (in May).
  - We are serving on the College’s International Committee.
  - We serve as a social host for four international students.
  - We continue to serve our respective communities as volunteer firefighters and emergency medical technicians, a church musician, a scout leader, youth league athletic coaches, and more.
- NOVA Police are always looking for ways to serve the NOVA community. If you have questions about police operations or would like a virtual or in-person presentation of one of our 20+ training classes (see the list on this newsletter’s last page) to your class, division, or community group, please contact us at: [NOVApdoutreach@nvcc.edu](mailto:NOVApdoutreach@nvcc.edu).

## COVID-19 or Allergies?

You're sneezing and coughing and feeling gross. You're sure it's your allergies but you're concerned what others might think about your symptoms. Allergy season is upon us and some COVID-19 symptoms overlap with allergy symptoms. Here's information to help you know the difference!



If you're uncertain, it's best to play it safe. Consult your primary health care provider and they will give you the best guidance.

Source: CDC

# DOWNLOAD

## LiveSafe Mobile Safety App

The LiveSafe Mobile Safety app is available for free to all NOVA faculty, students, staff and their friends. This powerful tool can empower you to stay safe, keep your campus safe, put potentially life-saving information at your fingertips, and facilitate timely interaction with NOVA Police and OEMS professionals in the event of an emergency or need for assistance. Download LiveSafe at iTunes or Google Play. It is easy and fast. Go to [www.LiveSafeMobile.com](http://www.LiveSafeMobile.com) to download this great app.



## 2021 NOVA POLICE TRAINING

NOVA Police conduct an extensive community outreach program. The following topics are available for presentation to faculty, students, clubs, staff, and community organizations via **Zoom or in-person**. If there are topics you would like presented or would like to request additional topics, please contact us at [novapdoutreach@nvcc.edu](mailto:novapdoutreach@nvcc.edu).

### Selected Topics

- Active Shooter Response
- Dealing with Difficult People
- Creating and Maintaining a Safe Classroom Environment
- Staying Safe on the Street/Self-Defense Considerations
- Alcohol/DUI Awareness
- Stop the Bleed Tourniquet Certification
- Recognizing/Reporting Suspicious Behavior
- CPR and AED Certification
- Empower Yourself to be Safe!
- Writing in the Workplace
- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About the Police (But Were Afraid to Ask)
- Ticket Avoidance Strategies
- Crimes Against Women/Human Trafficking
- Gangs and Drugs
- Civilian - Police Interactions