

Bowie News Flash

September 2018

News

Prescription Drug Take Back Day - Saturday, August 25, 2018

The City of Bowie and State of Maryland are offering a free Take Back Day for area residents to dispose of unused, unwanted, or expired prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Help us collect and dispose of these drugs properly and help us to protect Maryland and Bowie's environment. Bring your medications to the Bowie Police Department on Saturday, August 25 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

It's Back to School Time – Drive Carefully and Watch Out for Pedestrians

Everyone will be back to school by the first week in September. Stay alert, drive within the posted speed limit, and remember to stop for school buses that are loading and unloading.

Upcoming Concerts

- **Sunset Concert by US Navy Sea Chanters - August 26, 7 - 8 p.m. at Allen Pond Park**
- **Salute to America Concert - September 2, 7 - 8 p.m. at Allen Pond Park**
The City's annual Salute to America Concert will take place on Sunday, September 2, at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater in Allen Pond Park. The Salute to America Concert will be the final show of the summer Sunday Sunset Concert series.

The Bowie State University Concert Band will provide a selection of patriotic music. The concert is dedicated to all those who currently serve or have served in the Armed Forces. We will also pay tribute to the victims of the 9/11 terrorist attack. A candlelight vigil will be held to remember those we have lost. So bring your flags, candles, friends, and family to Allen Pond for this patriotic evening. All are encouraged to dress in red, white and blue, or wear military attire, if appropriate. For more information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

- **Fall Concerts in Old Town Bowie – Saturdays, 2 - 4 p.m. Old Town Bowie**
We're trying something new this fall in Old Town Bowie! Concerts will be offered on several Saturdays in September and October on the Town Green in Old Bowie. The schedule is available at www.cityofbowie.org/concerts or call Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Labor Day Holiday

Monday, September 3, 2018 is a City Holiday. City offices are closed. There is no refuse or recycling collection this day. Collection will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.

Register for Lessons at the Bowie Ice Arena

Back-to-School Ice Skating Lessons begin September 6. Classes are offered for all ages and levels from 18 months of age through adults. Registration for the next set of lessons (Series 1) begins September 22. Public skating sessions are offered daily. Information: www.cityofbowie.org/icearena.

City Council Meeting to Note

At the September 17 City Council Meeting, Council will review a Preliminary Plan of Subdivision for South Lake. The applicant, South Lake – Karington, LLC, requests the City's approval recommendation for a Preliminary Plan of Subdivision containing 695 dwelling units (an additional 591 units to be added to the currently approved 1,294 dwelling units and commercial uses on 381.52 acres) in the northern section of the overall development site. For more information, contact the Planning Department at 301-809-3047.

September is National Preparedness Month

Disasters can happen any day. The City of Bowie would like to remind residents that September is a good time to review preparedness information for severe weather, including hurricanes, and other emergencies that can occur throughout the year. To prepare, all are encouraged to make and practice an emergency plan, learn lifesaving skills, check insurance coverage, and save for an emergency.

Making preparations when threats are not imminent can make communities more resilient. Several online sources provide good emergency preparedness information. Visit www.cityofbowie.org/emergencyprep and these other sites for tips on how you can prepare for an emergency:

- **MEMA:** <http://mema.maryland.gov>
- **Federal Emergency Management Agency:** www.ready.gov
- **National Weather Service:** www.weather.gov/safety

Apply for a Single Family Housing Grant

The Single Family Housing Rehabilitation Program is a federally funded grant program that provides financial assistance to single-family homeowners with limited financial

means. The purpose of the grant is to provide energy efficiency-related upgrades and repairs to correct hazardous conditions, repair or replace major systems, correct interior and exterior deficiencies, make energy improvements, provide modifications for persons with disabilities, and eliminate lead based paint hazards.

To be eligible to participate, the applicant must be of low to moderate income and be the legal owner and full-time resident of a property located within the incorporated boundaries of the City of Bowie. The maximum grant fund per household is \$10,000. Prior grant recipients within the previous ten years are ineligible to apply. This new program will provide energy audits and energy efficiency rehabilitation activities to all low to moderate income households, with a focus on seniors, veterans, disabled homeowners, emergency responders and teachers. Applicants must provide income and asset verification. Additional federal requirements apply. For more information and an application, contact the Office of Grant Development and Administration at 301-809-3051 or bowiehsg@cityofbowie.org or visit www.cityofbowie.org/housingrehab.

Weed Warrior Workday

On September 15, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Whitemarsh Park please come help the Green Team remove English Ivy from trees and earn Student Service Learning hours while helping the environment! To register, or for more information, please contact City Sustainability Planner Ashleigh Armentrout, at 301-809-3044 or aarmentrout@cityofbowie.org.

Cop for a Day

Experience a day in the life of a Bowie police officer on **September 15**, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Bowie Town Center. Enjoy a thrilling vehicle pursuit, foot chase, conduct traffic stops, building search, and more! This event is open to everyone 9 years and older. Registration is \$15 and includes a t-shirt (\$10 with no shirt). All proceeds support Special Olympics. Lunch provided by Mission BBQ. For information and registration: 240-544-5792 or www.bowiecopforaday.com.

Bowie Health Fair

University of Maryland Capital Region Health, in conjunction with the City of Bowie and other community partners, is proud to present the annual Bowie Health Fair on September 15, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Health Center Drive! Enjoy a day of fun and education for the entire family, including free health screenings, educational workshops, music, entertainment, and a kid's fun zone. For information: 240-485-7165 or www.bowiehealthfair.com.

Beautification Awards

The City will host the annual Beautification Awards on September 19 at City Hall. Slide presentation and refreshments are at 7 p.m. Awards presentation begins at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

What's Bouncing at the City Gym?

- Morning Walking - 8:30 - 10 a.m.
- Pickleball – Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Coed Recreational Volleyball – Fridays, 12 - 2 p.m.

The City Gym will be closed for annual maintenance from August 27 to September 9. The Gym will reopen on September 10. Information: 301-809-2388

Mosquito Control

The City of Bowie, in partnership with the Maryland Department of Agriculture, has an aggressive mosquito surveillance and spraying program in City neighborhoods. When necessary, spraying is done in the late evenings/early mornings on Tuesdays and Wednesdays (June to September.) You can also do your part to control the mosquito population and prevent the spread of West Nile virus by eliminating mosquito breeding areas on your property in places where water collects, such as trash cans, buckets, and wheelbarrows, and by changing water in kiddie pools, bird baths, and outdoor pet water bowls regularly. For more information about mosquito prevention, visit www.cityofbowie.org/mosquitoes.

\$20 Compost Bins Available at City Hall

Purchase a \$20 compost bin at City Hall and start composting. City residents may purchase up to two bins per household. Payment can be made by cash or check at the Finance window during the City's business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and by check only at the reception desk during City Hall's evening and Saturday hours (Monday thru Thursday until 10 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to noon). Learn more about composting at www.cityofbowie.org/compost.

Register for Bowie Youth and Family Services Fall Groups

Bowie Youth & Family Services (BYFS) offers counseling for all families in the City who have children in the home who are high school age or younger. Other services include outreach activities and a mentoring program for students at Bowie High School. Staff members are licensed clinicians who each hold a graduate degree in a mental health specialty and who have years of training and experience in treating children, teens, and their families.

Registration is open for four group programs this fall. The first, *Calm, Confident Kids*, is designed to help school-aged children develop strategies for managing worries. The second fall group, *The Active Parenting Program*, is open to parents with school-aged children or teens. Our third group, *Girls Count*, is an after-school program for 9-12th grade girls. Finally, our popular *ADHD Group*, for 7 to 11-year old children with Attention-Deficit Disorder and their parents, will begin in October. Families are encouraged to call 301-809-3033 for more information, to register, or to arrange for an appointment.

Imagine an Hour that Impacts a Lifetime

Mentoring makes a difference and now is the time to volunteer. The Bowie Youth & Family Services Teen Mentoring Program invites you to join their mentoring program. When you volunteer to mentor a Bowie High School student, you agree to spend one hour a week building a positive relationship with a student and supporting their success in school, in their family and in the Bowie community. Mentors need to be willing to commit to meet weekly with a teen for the entire academic year, agree to security screening and fingerprinting, and participate in mentor trainings and group events. To apply, contact Program Coordinator Tia Younger at mentor@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3033.

Color Blind

The City Hall Art Gallery exhibit runs through September 15. It is free and open to the public. Gallery hours are City Hall hours: Monday to Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

“Singing in the Rain” at Bowie Playhouse

Show runs 9/21 to 10/20. For ticket information, contact 301-832-4819 or www.2ndstarproductions.com.

Holiday Arts and Crafts Market

Save the date! On November 17, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Bowie Arts Committee will sponsor a Holiday Market at the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts. For information, contact Neil Norris at norris@cityofbowie.org or 240-544-5601.

Jobs

The City of Bowie is seeking applicants for the following positions:

- **Building Maintenance Supervisor** (closes 8/31/18)
- **Administrative Assistant/Street Light Specialist** (closes 8/31/18)
- **Communications Specialist II** (open)
- **Police Officers** – Entry level & Lateral (open)
- **Ice Arena Attendant** (open)

For more information or to apply, visit www.cityofbowie.org/jobs.

Draft Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

The City’s Draft Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for FY 2018 is available for review. In accordance with guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), notice is hereby given that the City of Bowie, as an entitlement participant in the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, solicits public participation in the development of the CAPER for fiscal year 2018.

The CAPER provides a yearly accounting of CDBG and other funds allocated towards the implementation of objectives outlined in the Five Year Strategy Plan, which is

included in the Consolidated Plan for Community Development. Please send your comments to the Office of Grant Development & Administration at bowiehsg@cityofbowie.org.

Pecan Ridge Development

A subdivision of 80 single-family detached homes is planned for an area at the end of Old Laurel Bowie Road that is currently outside the City limits. The developer is requesting that the City annex the property prior to its development.

The proposal is to build the subdivision under a special designation that protects the character of land through the permanent preservation of farmland, woodland, sensitive natural features, scenic and historic landscapes, vistas, and unique features of the site in keeping with the General Plan and Countywide Green Infrastructure Plan.

This type of plan is called a Conservation Subdivision. The first filing in this process is the Conservation Sketch Plan. It is reviewed and approved by staff of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Residents can learn about what is being proposed at a Stakeholders Meeting hosted by the City on September 25 at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

City Council will review this Conservation Sketch Plan and decide whether to allow the area to be annexed into the City at its October 1, 2018 meeting. Residents are welcome to attend this Council meeting and testify during the public hearing. The meeting begins at 8 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall. For more information about the project, please attend the Stakeholders Meeting on September 25 or call the Planning and Community Development at 301-809-3047.

Protecting Yourself from Scammers

Scammers are always looking for new ways to gain access to your personal information or to trick you out of your money. With the rise of the Internet, many scammers are moving to the web, but phone scams are still widely used.

Recently, the City has received concerned calls about three types of phone scams:

- Scammers may claim your BGE service will be terminated unless you make a payment by purchasing a prepaid credit card. Always remember to ask the individual to see their employee identification badge or call BGE at 800-685-0123 so a representative can verify the employee's credentials and the nature of their visit. For more information, please visit <http://www.bge.com/imposter>.
- Scammers may call you directly on your phone and pretend to be representatives of a software company. When you engage with the scammers, they can offer fake solutions for your "problems" and ask for payment in the form of a one-time fee or subscription to a purported support service. Remember--only download software from official vendor websites.

- Scammers may claim to represent the IRS and threaten to bring in police or other law-enforcement to have you arrested for nonpayment of taxes. Remember, the IRS will usually contact taxpayers by US mail regarding unpaid taxes. Visit <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-scamsconsumer-alerts> for more information on common IRS phone scams.

The City is also getting complaints about someone going to door-to-door telling residents the City would be paying for security cameras to be installed at personal residences. **This is a scam.** The City has no plans to provide such a service.

Fortunately, most scams can be avoided by not making rash decisions. Be suspicious of callers or people at your door requesting immediate payments or promising something that sounds too good to be true. Ask yourself or someone you trust “Does this make sense?”

The Federal Trade Commission offers the following tips:

- **Spot imposters.** Scammers often pretend to be someone you trust like a government official, a charity, a company you do business with, or someone you know.
- **Do online searches for scams** using words that describe your situation.
- **Don’t believe your caller ID.** It can be easily faked.
- **Consider how you pay.** Requests for payment by gift card or wiring money are not normal. Be suspicious of offers for a service, a loan, a prize, a job or anything else when you did not initiate an inquiry.
- **Hang up on robocall sales pitches.**
- **Don’t give away financial and sensitive personal information** (address, date of birth, bank information, ID numbers) out over the phone.

Events

8/25 – Prescription Drug Take Back Day 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Bowie Police Department.

8/26 – Sunday Concert 7 p.m. at Allen Pond Park

8/27 - 9/9 – City Gym Closed for Annual Maintenance. The Gym will reopen 9/10. For more information, contact the Gym at 301-809-2388.

9/1 – Fall Concert Series – *Days of Vinyl (Classic Rock)* 2 - 4 p.m. at Town Green Park in Old Town Bowie. Concert canceled in inclement weather. For more information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

9/2 – Salute to America Concert 7 - 8 p.m. at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater in Allen Pond Park. For more information: call 301-809-3078 or email mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

9/3 – Labor Day Monday, September 3, 2018 is a City Holiday. City offices are closed. There is no refuse or recycling collection this day. Collection will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.

9/4 - City Council Meeting 8 p.m. at City Hall.

9/7 – National Senior Center Month Celebration 12:30 - 2 p.m. at the Senior Center. Enjoy DJ music and ice cream sundaes. Preregistration and fee required. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

9/8 – Fall Tree Planting Workshop 10 - 11 a.m. at Patuxent Nursery. Join Green Bowie staff and Patuxent Nursery arborists for a free workshop on tree planting. Participants will also receive information about the tree planting rebates for City residents. For more information, please contact Ashleigh Armentrout at 301-809-3044 or aarmentrout@cityofbowie.org.

9/8 – Rochambeau’s March 12 - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Reenactors, camp life, sewing circle and more! Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

9/8 – Fall Concert Series – *The Starvation Army Band (Dixieland)* 2 - 4 p.m. at Town Green Park in Old Town Bowie. Concert canceled in inclement weather. For more information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

9/11 – 9/11 Labyrinth Walk 10 a.m. at the Senior Center. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

9/11 – Being Just Friends 11 a.m. at the Senior Center. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

9/11 – *Harriet Tubman: History and Influences - Second Tuesday Lecture* 7:30 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Presentation by Angela Crenshaw, Park Ranger at the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

9/12 – Laughter Yoga 10 a.m. at the Senior Center. For more information, please contact the Senior Center at 301-809-2300.

9/15 – Weed Warrior Workday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Whitemarsh Park. To register, or for more information, please contact City Sustainability Planner, Ashleigh Armentrout, at 301-809-3044 or aarmentrout@cityofbowie.org.

9/15 – Cop for a Day 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Bowie Town Center. Enjoy a thrilling vehicle pursuit, foot chase, conduct traffic stops, building search, and more! This event is open to everyone 9 years and older. Registration is \$15 and includes a t-shirt (\$10 with no shirt). All proceeds support Special Olympics. Lunch provided by Mission BBQ. For information and registration: 240-544-5792 or www.bowiecopforaday.com.

9/15 – Bowie Health Fair 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Health Center Drive. Hosted by University of Maryland Capital Region Health in conjunction with the City of Bowie and other community partners. Enjoy a day of fun and education for the entire family, including free flu shots, health screenings, educational workshops, music, entertainment, and a kid's fun zone. For information: 240-485-7165 or www.bowiehealthfair.com.

9/15 – Fall Concert Series – Greydog (Classic Rock) 2 - 4 p.m. at Town Green Park in Old Town Bowie, Concert canceled in inclement weather. For more information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

9/16 – Farm Animal Petting Zoo at the Farmers' Market 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at 15200 Annapolis Road. For more information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

9/17 - City Council Meeting 8 p.m. at City Hall. Preliminary Plan for South Lake. For more information, contact the Planning Department at 301-809-3047.

9/18 – Kids Kaboose 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad fun and games for youngsters ages 1 - 11. Free. For more information, please contact 301-809-3089 or museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

9/19 – Walk Wednesday 6:30 - 7 p.m. at Allen Pond Park. Meet at the trail head by the playground at 6:15 p.m. The walk will start promptly at 6:30 p.m. and will end at about 7 p.m. For more information, contact Ashleigh Armentrout at 301-809-3044 or aarmentrout@cityofbowie.org.

9/19 – Beautification Awards 7 p.m. at City Hall. Slide presentation and refreshments at 7 p.m. Awards presentation at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

9/21-10/20 – Singing in the Rain Weekends at Bowie Playhouse. For ticket information: 301-832-4819 or www.2ndstarproductions.com.

9/22 – Fall Concert Series – The Bill Hairston Project (R&B, Jazz and Pop) 2 - 4 p.m. at Town Green Park in Old Town Bowie. Concert canceled in inclement weather. For

more information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

9/25 – Pecan Ridge Stakeholders Meeting 7 p.m. at City Hall

9/26 – Walk Wednesday 6:30 - 7 p.m. at Acorn Hill Park. Meet at 6:15 p.m. at the Tree City USA sign at Acorn Hill. The walk will start promptly at 6:30 p.m. and will go until about 7 p.m. For more information, contact Ashleigh Armentrout at 301-809-3044 or aarmentrout@cityofbowie.org.

9/29 – Fall Concert Series – *Project Natale (Jazz)* 2 - 4 p.m. at Town Green Park in Old Town Bowie. Concert canceled in inclement weather. For more information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Coming Next Month...

- **10/1 – City Council Meeting 8 p.m.** – Public Hearing - Pecan Ridge Development
- **10/6 – Bowie International Festival** 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Allen Pond Park
- **10/13 – Low Cost Rabies Vaccine & Microchip Clinic** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at City Hall