



# CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

## UPDATES & GUIDANCE

### Summary (updates highlighted in yellow)

**Date:** Thursday, March 26, 2020

**Number of confirmed cases in Prince George's County - 101**

**Number of confirmed cases in Maryland** – 580

*(Includes presumptive cases. Figures may decrease if a presumptive case is negative.)*

Please view the latest video message from our Emergency Operations Center at

<https://youtu.be/3louBi2yXCE> . (To watch with closed captioning, click on the “cc” button in the bottom right corner of the video screen.)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Governor Hogan's New Orders – as of March 25

- **Public schools in Maryland closed through 4/24.** See message from PGCPSC CEO Golson at <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/PGCPSC/bulletins/28321bo>.
- Anyone traveling from New York, New Jersey, or Connecticut must self quarantine for 14 days upon arriving in Maryland. This is due to the rapidly growing number of cases in the tri-state area.

The new orders and actions announced by Governor Hogan this week can be found in the following documents:

- Press Release and other information – [www.maryland.gov](http://www.maryland.gov)
- Orders - <https://governor.maryland.gov/category/executive-orders/>
- Interpretive Guidance - <https://governor.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/OLC-Interpretive-Guidance-COVID19-04.pdf>

#### Emergency Relief Grants for Small Businesses & Nonprofits

The \$50 million Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Program offers grant amounts up to \$10,000, not to exceed 3 months of cash operating expenses, to small businesses and nonprofits with 50 or fewer employees. Learn more at this link:

<https://commerce.maryland.gov/fund/maryland-small-business-covid-19-emergency-relief-grant-fund>

#### Trash & Recycling Collection

Effective Wednesday, March 25, modifications were put into place to protect employees during this emergency. See chart below for more information.

#### Bowie Food Pantry News

The pantry continues to operate M,W,F 9 a.m - 12 noon. Donations are accepted on M,W,F from 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. They are providing drive up service only. Clients will be checked in and groceries loaded into their vehicles. Donors should pull up and volunteers will take their donations into the pantry. The greatest needs are soup, beans, spaghetti sauce, beefaroni/ravioli, peanut butter, tuna fish, canned fruit/applesauce, rice (bagged or boxed), canned meats, toilet paper, and personal care items. They could also use medium size boxes and NEW cloth totes. Check their website ([www.bowiefoodpantry.org](http://www.bowiefoodpantry.org)) or Facebook page (@bowiefoodpantry) for updates.

#### Youth & Family Services

During the COVID-19 emergency, you can reach Bowie Youth & Family Services by calling **1-513-817-3158**. A staff member will be there to assist you during our normal hours of operation, which are M-Th, 8:30 a.m. - 9

p.m. and F, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. You can also check out their list of resources to help families cope with social distancing and other challenges related to the pandemic at [www.cityofbowie.org/covidfamilyhelp](http://www.cityofbowie.org/covidfamilyhelp).

**Metro**

Effective today, Metro is closing an additional 17 stations (2 were already closed) and also closing selected entrances amid low-ridership and the need to conserve critical cleaning supplies. This follows drastic measures already taken to reduce travel on Metro to essential trips only, leading to a Metrorail ridership decline of 90 percent. The 19 stations will remain closed until further notice and trains will pass through without stopping. Details at <http://ora.cl/fA0hO>

**Neighbors Helping Neighbors – Can You Help?**

Neighbors Helping Neighbors is a program designed to help seniors (65+) or individuals with a disability who live in the City of Bowie and are in need of assistance. At the current time seniors and those with compromised immune systems are being encouraged to remain at home. To assist them in obtaining necessary food and medications, we are looking for volunteers willing to shop for groceries or pick-up a prescription at a drug store. If you are able to help, please complete a Neighbors Helping Neighbors application and return it as soon as possible. Applications can be found at [www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms](http://www.cityofbowie.org/cityforms). If you are a senior in need of help, a form is available for you to complete as well. The request for assistance form can also be found at the link above. For additional information please contact the Bowie Senior Center at 301-809-2300 or visit [www.cityofbowie.org/nhn](http://www.cityofbowie.org/nhn).

**Keeping Children Safe Online**

Because schools are closed, children will likely be spending more time online, potentially making them more vulnerable to predators and cyber scams. The FBI is seeking to warn parents, educators, caregivers, and children about the dangers of online sexual exploitation and signs of child abuse. The FBI has issued recommendations. They include:

- Discussing Internet safety with children of all ages when they engage in online activity.
- Reviewing and approving games and apps before they are downloaded.
- Making sure privacy settings are set to the strictest level possible for online gaming systems and electronic devices.
- Monitoring your children’s use of the Internet; keep electronic devices in an open, common room of the house.

Please read the complete list of recommendations at <https://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/school-closings-due-to-covid-19-present-potential-for-increased-risk-of-child-exploitation>

**STATUS OF CITY OF BOWIE PUBLIC FACILITIES**

|   |                                       |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| City Hall   | City offices are closed to the public | Call 301-262-6200 if you have an urgent need to conduct business.   |
| Senior Center, Ice Arena, City Gym, City Museums, Kenhill Center, Playhouse | Closed to the public                  |   |
| City Parks  | All parks are open                    | Playgrounds, ballfields, courts, fitness equipment, and picnic areas at these parks are closed to public.   |
| Trash and recycling   | Continuing w/modifications            | Trash must be in containers or closed bags. Recycling must be in bins or carts. No loose trash or recycling. No large items will be collected with trash. |
| Special pickups   | Canceled                              |   |
| Yard Waste Collection   | Continuing – no changes               |   |

