



COVID-19 UPDATES & GUIDANCE

Summary (updates highlighted in yellow)

Date: Friday, April 17, 2020

Number of confirmed cases

Maryland – 11,572

Prince George's County – 2,966

Bowie zip codes – 302

20715 - 54

20716 - 77

20720 - 63

20721 - 108

Visit the [Prince George's County COVID-19 dashboard](#) to view data for all zip codes in the County and the [Maryland dashboard](#) for statewide data.

Today's Announcements from the State of Maryland

- **Public Schools** - The Maryland Schools Superintendent announced this afternoon that public schools in Maryland will remain closed through at least May 15.
- **Reopening the State** - During his press conference today, Governor Hogan spoke about the eventual steps to reopening the state. He reiterated that four standards must be met before recovery can begin:
 1. More testing available
 2. More hospital beds for the surge in cases
 3. More medical and personal protective equipment
 4. More robust contact investigation of cases

Other factors that must be considered are the number of COVID-19 related cases and deaths. In Maryland and in the National Capital Region, these numbers are still climbing. According to federal guidelines released this week, until the number of COVID-19 related cases and deaths trend lower for at least 14 days, there can be no lessening of the closures and social distancing restrictions.

Clarifying the Face Covering Orders

There have been two different face covering orders issued this week:

1. **Prince George's County (now in effect)**
The County order requires customers and employees at grocery stores, pharmacies, and

large chain retail establishments to wear masks or face coverings in the store. It also requires face coverings or masks while traveling on the County's bus system.

2. Maryland (effective 4/18 at 7 a.m.)

The Maryland order applies statewide and will replace the County order. It requires that face coverings or masks be worn by customers and employees at all retail and food establishments and when riding any form of public transportation in Maryland. It also requires retail establishments to implement social distancing measures in their stores.

Links:

- [Governor Hogan's Order on Face Coverings and Social Distancing \(4/15/20\)](#)
- [Maryland Department of Health website](#)
- [Surgeon General demonstrates how to make a face covering in 30 seconds](#)
- [CDC Instructions on how to make a mask or face covering](#)
- [Prince George's County Executive's Order on Face Covering and Masks](#)

Cancellations and Schedule Changes due to the Pandemic

- **Primary Election Day** is now June 2nd. This election will be conducted primarily by mail. All registered and eligible voters will be mailed a ballot for this election. In person voting will be available for those who cannot vote by mail.
- **Federal and State Income Tax Filing Deadlines** are extended to July 15.
- **City events** are canceled through May 31.
- **Bowie Farmers' Market** will open in mid- May and will follow strict social distancing guidelines established by the state for Maryland Farmers' Markets. (more details to come)
- **Maryland Public Schools closed** through at least May 15.

COVID Business Assistance

- The federal **Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program** is no longer accepting applications. The funds have been depleted, but submitted applications are still being processed.
- The State of **Maryland COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund** is no longer accepting applications. All applications that have been submitted are currently being reviewed in the order received.
- **Prince George's County COVID-19 Business Relief Fund**
This \$15M fund was established to provide financial assistance to businesses affected by the COVID-19 crisis. The Relief Fund can be used to support cash operating expenses including payroll, suppliers rent, fixed debt payments and other business critical cash operating costs. [Register](#).

HAVE YOU COMPLETED THE CENSUS?

LET'S DO IT, BOWIE



Households can respond online at
2020census.gov or call 844-330-2020.

TRASH & RECYCLING CHANGES

- Trash must be placed in trash cans or closed bags. No loose trash or large items will be picked up.
- All recycling must be in recycling bins or carts. No loose items will be picked up.
- No special pickups
- Yard waste is being collected