



COVID-19 UPDATES & GUIDANCE

Summary (updates highlighted in yellow)

Date: Monday, April 20, 2020

Number of confirmed cases

Maryland – 13,684

Prince George's County – 3583

Bowie zip codes – 342

20715 - 58

20716 - 87

20720 - 77

20721 - 120

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.

Governor Hogan

The Governor held another press conference today to announce that the state of Maryland has secured 500,000 test kits from South Korea. This large shipment of tests will dramatically increase the state's ability to test for COVID-19. More test kits will still be needed, but this is a big step forward.

Maryland Face Covering Order (effective 4/18 at 7 a.m.)

Face coverings or masks must now be worn:

- By customers and employees at all retail establishments (including grocery stores, pharmacies, liquor stores, big box stores, and other retailers still permitted to be open)
- By customers and employees at all food delivery and pickup locations
- When riding any form of public transportation in Maryland

Retail establishments must also have social distancing measures in place in their stores

You can make a simple mask by following the instructions in the video narrated by the Surgeon General (linked below) or follow the CDC's instructions on making one. Masks are also being sold or given away by many individuals in Bowie. Check on social media sites, such as NextDoor, Facebook, and Twitter for more information. Remember to use safe shopping practices on all social media sites.

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](#)

Are you an hourly employee laid off because of the pandemic?

The Prince George's County's COVID-19 Hourly Employee Relief Fund was established to help hourly employees who have been laid off because of the pandemic. Individuals who are deemed eligible may be able to receive a \$200 gift card. According to the County website, preference will be given to those earning \$19/hour or less prior to being laid off. To learn more or to apply for this program, visit <https://www.employpg.org/covid19/>

Cancellations and Schedule Changes due to the Pandemic

- **City Council meetings and Budget Worksessions** are continuing to take place virtually during the pandemic. They can be viewed live at www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings or on FIOS Channel 10 or Comcast Channel 71 and 996. Those wishing to submit comments for public hearings or the citizen participation portion of Regular Meetings may do so by sending the testimony to City Clerk Awilda Hernandez at ahernandez@cityofbowie.org or by texting 240-335-3282. Comments must be received by 7 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Meeting agendas are posted at www.cityofbowie.org/agenda.
- **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.
- **All City events** are canceled through May 31. Bowiefest, which usually takes place on the first Saturday in June, is also canceled for this year.
- **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.