Summary (updates highlighted in yellow)

Date: Wednesday, April 29, 2020

Number of confirmed cases

Maryland – 20,849 (+736)

Prince George's County – 5,738 (+240)

Bowie zip codes – 543 (+19)

20715 – 97

20716 – 154

20720 – 124

20721 – 168

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.

The Maryland dashboard contains data about hospitalizations, including the total number of Marylanders currently hospitalized with COVID-19, what level of care they are receiving (acute, ICU, etc.) and how many new patients have been hospitalized with the disease. When these numbers begin to stabilize or go down, these will be some of the key indicators that decision makers will use to determine if the spread of the disease is truly slowing down. Maryland is now providing data on outbreaks in nursing homes across the state. Two nursing homes located in Bowie are on the list.

Governor Hogan's Announcements Today

This afternoon the Governor spoke on the following topics

- **Recovery and Reopening**
  The case numbers are continuing to go up because of more widely available testing. The state is focused on the rate of hospitalizations and the number of patients admitted to ICU. When those metrics plateau, the state will be in a position to begin implementing reopening and recovery plans.

- **Testing**
  More testing will be available for healthcare workers and first responders. Patients and staff will be tested at all nursing homes so that asymptomatic carriers can be identified and

hopefully slow down the spread of the disease. State officials are also working to expand community-based testing, especially in hotspot areas, such as Prince George's County.

- **Poultry Industry Outbreaks**
  Leaders in the Delmarva region are taking aggressive steps to address the poultry processing outbreaks to protect the workers and protect the food supply. Widespread testing of poultry workers will soon begin and federal teams are being brought in to help deal with the outbreaks.

- **Nursing Homes**
  Currently, there are clusters of cases at 278 group living facilities around the state. These include 4,011 confirmed cases of COVID-19 cases at 143 different Maryland nursing homes. These outbreaks account for 19% of Maryland's total positive cases and 46% of the state's deaths.

  To combat this, the Governor issued an executive order requiring universal testing of ALL residents and staff at all Maryland nursing homes. Facilities will be prioritized based on an imminent outbreak or a current rising threat risk. Under the order, it will be mandatory for facilities to fully comply with strike teams deployed by the state to help stem the outbreaks. It further requires that each resident be evaluated by a physician, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or registered nurse on a daily basis. Bridge Teams can be sent in to help with clinical staffing in some of these facilities, if needed.

  Nursing homes will also be required to provide regular informational updates to their residents, resident representatives, and staff regarding COVID19 infections. View the order at https://governor.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Nursing-Homes-Amended-4.29.20.pdf.

- **Unemployment**
  The state website that was introduced on Friday for filing claims is functioning, but it is very slow. The state continues to work with the vendor to make improvements.

- **Healthcare Heroes**
  The Governor has proclaimed May 2nd as **Healthcare Heroes Day** in Maryland. The state house dome will be illuminated in blue, along with sports stadiums in Baltimore. He encourages others to follow suit to show their reports for healthcare workers.

Weather Advisory – Flood Watch
Widespread heavy rainfall is expected Thursday afternoon into Thursday evening along and ahead of a strong cold front. Rainfall totals of 1.5 to 2.5 inches are expected with the potential for up to 3 inches. This amount of rainfall will likely result in small stream and some river flooding. **You can help keep the water flowing and prevent flooding by clearing storm drains near your home of any trash or debris that may have accumulated there.**

Frequently Asked Questions from Residents
During the Stay at Home order we have continued to have a staff member available to answer your calls to City Hall because we believe it is important for Bowie residents to be able to talk to someone and get their questions answered. Many of you are inquiring about how city services are

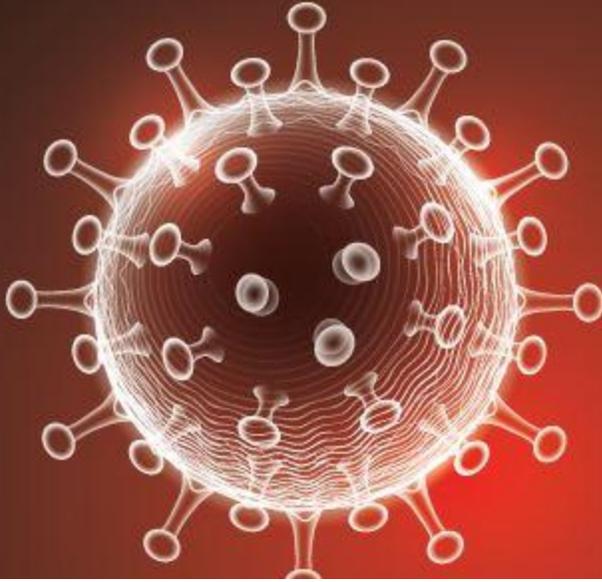being handled during the pandemic. Here are some of the more popular questions that we have been asked:

- **Trash and recycling - Why didn't my cardboard boxes get picked up with recycling?**
  To protect Solid Waste collectors from potential exposure to the coronavirus, only recycling that is in a recycling cart or bin is being picked up. We encourage you to break down your boxes into pieces that will fit in the containers. Loose boxes will not be picked up during this pandemic.

- **Pet licenses - My pet license has expired. How do I renew it now?**
  You will be able to renew your pet license at some point in the future when social distancing orders are lifted. For now, it is okay to have an expired pet license.

- **Xfinity office at Kenhill – When will the office reopen? How can I return equipment now?**
  Because city facilities are closed, so too is the Xfinity office at the Kenhill Center. Customers can call 800-266-2278 or 800-934-6489 for assistance. If you must drop off equipment or conduct other business in person, visit their Largo office at 10432 Campus Way South (Monday - Saturday, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.).

Food Supply Issues
COVID-19 outbreaks are being reported at meat processing facilities around the US and particularly at chicken processing plants in Delaware and on the eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia. The states and the CDC are working to address these outbreaks, but until they can control the outbreaks at the plants and get the workers healthy, there are likely to be some temporary interruptions in the meat and chicken being supplied to grocery stores.

Maryland Promotes Buying Locally from Farms and Seafood Markets
One of the ways to work around potential food shortages is to buy locally. The Maryland Department of Agriculture is working to connect Marylanders with farmers and seafood producers providing fresh, local food products. The Department's marketing arm, Maryland's Best has released an interactive map feature based on information gathered directly from local agricultural and seafood producers. You will find information on product availability, how to order, and options for pick-up and/or delivery. On the Department's COVID-19 News page you will also find other updates and guidance related to Maryland agriculture.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HAS
COVID-19 TESTING
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
CALL (301) 883-6627

HAVE YOU COMPLETED THE CENSUS?

LET'S DO IT, BOWIE

Bowie Counts
CENSUS
2020
Complete the Census

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