



# COVID-19 UPDATES & GUIDANCE

## Summary (updates highlighted in yellow)

**Date: Friday, May 1, 2020**

### Number of confirmed cases

**Maryland** – 23,472 (+1,730)

**Prince George's County** – 6,735 (+692)

**Bowie zip codes** – 589

20715 – 108

20716 – 163

20720 – 136

20721 – 182

Maryland COVID-19 hospitalizations decreased by 2.5% today.

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.

### Prince George's County provides this statement on its dashboard:

*"Prince George's County case counts per zip code area may be impacted by multiple factors including test availability and may not be an accurate indication of the concentration of positive cases in that area. Case rates per 100,000 residents is a more accurate indication of the concentration of positive cases in the area, but it also is impacted by many factors including testing availability. What is clear, is that COVID-19 is present throughout the county and in every municipality. DO NOT assume that a lower case count or rate in your community means you are not at risk. It remains of the utmost importance, that no matter where you live in the county, you must maintain social distancing and all other recommendations regarding preventing the spread of COVID-19."*

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: Larkin Chase and Brookdale Woodward Estates.

### **Masks for Bowie Seniors**

On April 18, Governor Hogan ordered face masks or face coverings to be worn in Maryland whenever someone is in a retail and food establishment, laundromat, or on public transportation. Given this order, and the fact that the CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, we expect that Marylanders will be wearing masks for some time to come.

While seniors are being encouraged to stay home and avoid potential exposure to the coronavirus, we know that this is not always possible, and we want to make sure you have the protection you need if you must venture out. The City of Bowie is proud to partner with local organizations and individuals who are helping to make or provide masks to us for distribution to seniors.

**If you are a senior, living in the City of Bowie, and have not been able to secure a mask, please contact the Bowie Senior Center at 301-809-2300 and we will arrange to have a free mask delivered to you.** If you or your organization would like to volunteer to help with this effort, please contact Lori Cunningham at 240-544-5601 or email [lcunningham@cityofbowie.org](mailto:lcunningham@cityofbowie.org).

For a list of the organizations and individuals who are already involved in making or providing masks, visit [www.cityofbowie.org/masksforseniors](http://www.cityofbowie.org/masksforseniors). Thank you! You make Bowie proud!

### **New Guidance from the CDC**

- If you are living in a small space or with several other people, or with someone who has been exposed to the coronavirus, the CDC has issued new guidance for you. [Living in Close Quarters Guidance](#)
- While Maryland is not at the point where it can provide a specific date for reopening, there is a lot of planning taking place at all levels for government to make sure that strategies are in place to help reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus when restrictions are eventually lifted. Yesterday the CDC issued guidance on cleaning different types of facilities (public spaces, workplaces, businesses, schools) and surfaces for reopening. There is also useful information in the document on cleaning and disinfecting your home. [Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting](#)

### **Maryland Flags at Half Staff & Tributes to Healthcare Heroes**

The Maryland Secretary of State lowered the state flag to half-staff at noon on Thursday in honor of the Marylanders who lost their lives to COVID-19. The flag will remain at half-staff on Friday for Fallen Heroes Day and Saturday for Healthcare Heroes Day and will return to full staff at sunset on Sunday, May 3.

As part of the tribute to healthcare heroes, the Blue Angels and the Thunderbirds will do flyovers across the DC/Baltimore region on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are expecting them to pass over our County around 11:45 a.m. The state house dome will be illuminated in blue, along with sports stadiums in Baltimore. The Governor encourages others to follow suit around the state to show their support for healthcare workers.

### **Testing in Prince George's County**

The testing site at Fedex Field has closed. Testing will now take place at the Health Department's

Cheverly Health Center located near Prince George's Hospital, at 3003 Hospital Drive. Beginning May 4, the Cheverly testing/screening site hours of operation will be Monday thru Friday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. by appointment only. Call your health provider if you think you may have COVID-19 or call the Prince George's County COVID-19 testing hotline at 301-883-6627.

### **COVID Connect**

The state has set up a [website](#) and registry for those that have recovered from COVID-19. It is a place for these individuals to share information, promote action, and find support or provide support to others who may be currently battling the disease.

[www.health.maryland.gov/covidconnect](http://www.health.maryland.gov/covidconnect)

### **Unemployment Claims**

The state website that was introduced on Friday for filing claims is functioning, but operating slowly. The state continues to work with the vendor to make improvements.

[Frequently Asked Questions \(and Answers\) about the new Maryland Unemployment system.](#)

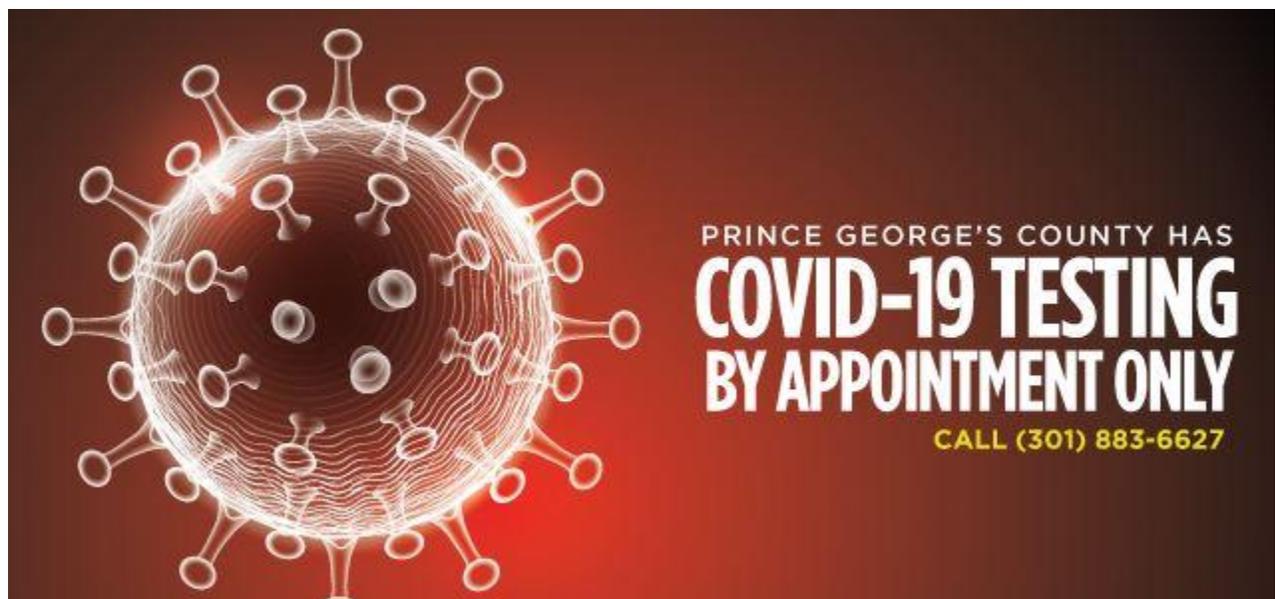
[Apply here](#)

### **City Council Meetings and Budget Worksessions During the Pandemic**

City Council meetings are being held virtually during this emergency. While the public cannot attend Council meetings or Budget Worksessions in person, they can watch them live on the Bowie government channel (FIOS 10/Comcast 71 & 996) or at [www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings](http://www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings).

Residents may submit testimony for public hearings or comments for the Citizen Participation portion of an upcoming Regular Council meeting by texting a message to 240-335-3282 or emailing written or video testimony/comments to [cityclerk@cityofbowie.org](mailto:cityclerk@cityofbowie.org). Testimony and comments must be received by 7 p.m. on the day of the meeting. For assistance, contact City Clerk Awilda Hernandez at 301-809-3029.

***The next Regular Council meeting takes place on May 4 at 8 p.m. and will include a public hearing on the FY 2021 Proposed Budget, Capital Improvements Program and on the Constant Yield Tax Rate.***



# HAVE YOU COMPLETED THE CENSUS?

**LET'S DO IT, BOWIE**



Households can respond online at  
[2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov) or call 844-330-2020.