



COVID-19 UPDATES & GUIDANCE

Summary (updates highlighted in yellow)

Date: Friday, May 8, 2020

Number of confirmed cases

Maryland – 30,485 (+1,111)
Prince George's County – 8,516 (+381)
Bowie zip codes – 706 (+30)
20715 – 132
20716 – 189
20720 – 174
20721 – 211

Maryland COVID-19 hospitalizations decreased by 0.5% 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. The weekly data on nursing home outbreaks was released on May 6 and includes updated information on the outbreaks at Larkin Chase and Brookdale Woodward Estates in Bowie.

Planning for Recovery and Reopening

The Governor's announcement this week to allow elective surgeries and to broaden the list of permitted outdoor activities are among the first steps that Maryland is taking on the way to recovery from the pandemic. In the coming week, he is expected to relax more of the restrictions that were put in place to slow the spread of the disease.

A few weeks ago, Governor Hogan presented the *Maryland Roadmap to Recovery*, which is a three-stage plan to reopen the state. At that time, he provided a description of the kind of activities that might be permitted to resume with each stage. The three stages are summarized below. Please note that the specific orders for each stage may be different than what is provided here, but this information provides a sense of the types of actions that may be addressed in each stage.

Outline of Maryland Recovery Stages Issued by Governor Hogan on April 24:

STAGE ONE

Relaxing the stay at home order; reopening some small businesses; allowing lower risk community activities, and "quality of life improvements" to resume.

STAGE TWO

Reopening of more businesses and allowing more nonessential workers to return to work. It could also include raising limits on social gatherings, including indoor religious gatherings, and some eating establishments. This stage would begin if Stage One activities resume without a spike in deaths, a sustained spike in ICU cases, or significant outbreaks of community transmission.

STAGE THREE

Involves reinstating higher risk activities including larger social gatherings (i.e. sports, entertainment, etc.) and opening large restaurants and bars.

While we don't know the specifics of each stage of recovery yet, we know that the plan will be gradually implemented and that the impact of each step on the case numbers and hospitalizations will be monitored closely. Some level of social distancing is likely to remain in place and good hand washing hygiene, thorough cleaning of surfaces, and face coverings will still be important ways to prevent the spread of the virus, until a vaccine is developed or the spread of the disease subsides.

The City of Bowie is also planning for gradual recovery and reopening of facilities. The goal is to eventually resume operations, while protecting the health and safety of workers and those we serve.

Individuals should also be thinking about, and planning for, how they will operate when the Stay at Home order is eventually lifted, keeping in mind one's own personal risk factors for ongoing exposure to the disease.

Some things to consider as you plan for when you will be out in public more often:

- Do you have masks and other personal protective equipment?
- What will be your cleaning regimen be to minimize bringing the virus into your home or spreading it among household members?
- Do you have adequate cleaning supplies?
- How will you care for children who are out of school if daycares are closed, but you are required to report to work?

The CDC has issued *Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Schools, and Homes*. It contains very useful information on reducing the risk of exposure to the virus, what surfaces need to be cleaned and/or disinfected, and safe behavioral practices. View it at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>. There is also a link to the document on our website at www.cityofbowie.org/corona.

Nursing Homes and COVID-19

Seniors, especially those living in nursing homes and other congregate care settings have been hardest hit by COVID-19. Outbreaks in nursing homes and other similar facilities account for 20% of the cases statewide and 50% of the deaths in Maryland. To address these outbreaks, the state has created two types of teams: 1) Strike teams of medical and support personnel go into nursing homes to assess and assist with outbreaks, and 2) Bridge teams of 5 - 7 people that can help with staffing shortfalls due to the virus. The state is also working with nursing homes to make sure they have adequate personal protective equipment to limit the spread of the disease.

Mandatory testing of all patients and staff at nursing homes is underway across the state and those numbers are being reported weekly on the Maryland Department of Health's website. Two facilities located in Bowie have outbreaks.

Larkin Chase Nursing Home

Patient cases - 75
Patient deaths – 15
Staff cases – 13
Staff deaths – 0

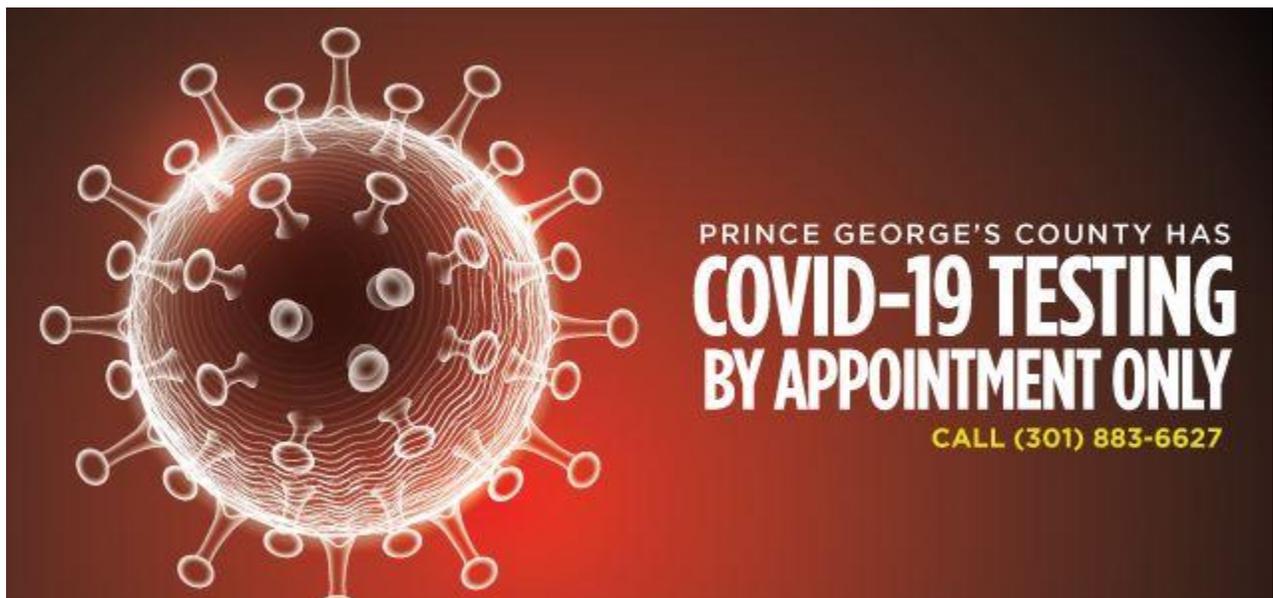
Brookdale Woodward Estates Assisted Living

Patient cases - 5
Patient deaths -1
Staff cases - 4
Staff deaths - 1

The state's multi-agency Nursing Home Task Force will continue to monitor and support nursing homes throughout this crisis. Learn more in the ***Frequently Asked Questions About Nursing Facility Orders and Response Efforts*** document found at <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/#FAQ>

Prince George's County Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Today, Prince George's County introduced the Emergency Rental Assistance Program which will provide temporary rental and utility assistance, up to \$1800 per month for three months, for households meeting the income eligibility requirements. The application process will open on Monday, May 11. More information about the program can be found at www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3471/COVID-19-Emergency-Rental-Assistance.



TRASH & RECYCLING REMINDERS

- 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

These changes are in effect until further notice