



# COVID-19 REOPENING UPDATE

## Summary (updates highlighted in yellow)

**Date:** Thursday, June 18, 2020

<b>Bowie Confirmed Cases:</b> 1033 (+1)  20715: 216 (+0) 20716: 257 (+1) 20720: 245 (+0) 20721: 315 (+0)	<b>Prince George's County Confirmed Cases:</b> 17,666 (+55) <b>Total Deaths:</b> 649 (+1) <b>Hospitalizations:</b> 2880 (+6) total <b>County Ranking:</b> 20th in the nation  <b>PGC Positivity Rate:</b> 10.7%* <b>Pop. Tested:</b> 8.1%* <i>*Data current as of 6/18</i>  <i>The Governor has set a goal to test 10% of the population. Somerset is currently the highest at 18.1%.</i>	<b>MD Confirmed Cases</b> 63,229 (+260)  <b>Deaths</b> 3,016 (+20)  Released from Isolation 4,640 (+44), 7%  <b>Age Range of Cases</b> 0-19                  20-59                  60+ 4,921 (7%)    42,185 (66%)    16,123 (25%)
<b>Maryland Testing</b> <b>Tests Completed:</b> 535,444 (+8,562) Negative Tests: 384,379 (+6,005) Population Tested: 7% <b>MD Positivity Rate:</b> 5.43% 24 hour change: -0.38  <i>Data Current as of 6/17.</i>	<b>Hospitalization Data Tracker</b> Currently Hospitalized: 660                  -6.0% Acute Care: 391                                  -6.7% Intensive Care 269                                -5.0% Ever Hospitalized 10,357                        16.3%  <i>Hospitalization numbers have slowed down, started to stabilize from the steep drops we saw earlier.</i>	

Source: Maryland Health Department COVID-19 dashboard

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.

### Maryland Department of Health Establishes Goal to Test 10% of Population in Each Jurisdiction

To continue making progress in our fight against COVID-19, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) is establishing the goal of testing 10% of the population in each jurisdiction and ensuring that vulnerable populations and areas identified as potential community outbreaks are tested without delay. View the full letter from MDH on the [Governor's website](#).

To track this progress, the State of Maryland will begin posting daily percentages of population tested by jurisdiction on [coronavirus.maryland.gov](https://coronavirus.maryland.gov).

### Experts Stress Importance of COVID Precautions Amid Reopening and New Outbreaks Across Nation

As several states across the nation accelerate their reopening process, there have been some surges of new coronavirus cases and hospitalizations. Health officials stress the importance of continuing to follow CDC guidelines on mask usage, social distancing, and frequent handwashing. These precautions are especially important now as restrictions on restaurants and stores in Maryland and Prince George's County lessen.

Understandably, moving forward with reopening at a time of growing concern may seem like a mixed message, but public officials must strike a balance between health concerns and economic factors – such as businesses' need to open or the public's need to shop. As a result, it is vital that everyone do their part to

ensure the reopening process is done in a way that minimizes risks, especially for those who are vulnerable.

Bowie, make sure to do your part in helping stop the spread of COVID-19 by following these health guidelines:



### Prince George's County Begins New Phase of Reopening

Last week, County Executive Alsobrooks announced a relaxation of many of the social distancing regulations that have been in place since April. More details can be found at the links below:

- [Executive Order](#) (issued June 12, 2020)
- [Press Release](#) (issued June 11, 2020)
- [Prince George's County Stage Two webpage](#)

Please note, that only those activities and businesses listed in the Executive Order may resume or reopen. Unless the order specifically allows it, most social, community, spiritual, religious, recreational, leisure, and sporting gatherings and events of more than 10 people are still prohibited.

### City of Bowie Reopening Announcements

Now that the County has moved to Stage Two of Reopening, the City is also moving forward with its reopening plan. Limited in-person services listed below are now available; however, residents are strongly encouraged to continue conducting city business online or by telephone whenever possible.

### Phase Two Reopening Status:

- City Hall is open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 to 5 p.m., for limited services.
- These include:
  - Pet licenses
  - Water bill payments
  - Permits
  - Rental housing licenses
  - Notary services (by appointment only)
  - The Bowie Police Department will open its lobby for window services such as obtaining police reports and paying speed camera citations.
- Playgrounds are open.

- Youth sports are permitted on ballfields (max of 9 youth and 1 coach)
- Adult are also permitted on fields for low contact sports, but only 10 players per field.
- Some fields may be closed for maintenance. Call the Ballfield Status line at 301-809-1909.
- Fitness equipment in the parks can be used.
- Outdoor fitness classes of up to 10 people can take place in parks
- Park restrooms are open at Allen Pond and Whitemarsh Park.

## CITY OF BOWIE PARKS ARE OPEN

### Permitted activities:

(must follow social distancing & hygiene guidelines)

- Outdoor exercise activities - walking, running, biking, etc.
- Outdoor personal fitness and fitness classes \*
- Youth sports \*
- Small picnics \*
- Playgrounds are open

\*Limited to groups of 10 or less

## CITY HALL OPEN

FOR LIMITED IN-PERSON SERVICES

8:30 - 5 P.M.



- Animal Control
- Building Permits
- Rental Licenses
- Water Bill Payments
- Police Lobby

**MASKS, SOCIAL DISTANCING, AND HEALTH SCREENINGS REQUIRED**

### What to Expect When You Come to City Hall

Each visitor to City Hall will be **required to wear a mask**, have their temperature taken using a touchless thermometer, and answer a few health-screening questions. You will also be expected to keep at least six feet from employees and others who may be visiting the building. **These rules are a requirement. Visitors who do not abide by these requirements will not be permitted to enter or will be asked to leave.**

Business will be conducted at the windows in the lobby of City Hall, the Police Department, and at the Finance Department (for water bills). **Appointments can be scheduled for some services** so that you can limit your time in the building.

These measures are similar to others being taken across the country to stop the spread of COVID-19. Some refinements of these rules may be necessary as we gain experience with this new stage of recovery. We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Many services can be handled online or by phone. Please call City Hall at 301-262-6200 to determine if your business must be done in person. Also, use this number to schedule appointments for service.

### **Using Playgrounds and Parks Safely**

Please remember that although community spread of COVID-19 has slowed down, the virus still continues to infect people in our community and elsewhere. Children can catch the virus when they touch contaminated objects and then touch their mouths, noses or eyes, as well as when they have close contact with others who may have the virus.

It has been a long spring for us all, but especially for children. We understand the desire to get out and play and return to a semblance of normal. Each family must weigh the risks and benefits of going out in public, and of using public equipment. Risks include contracting the illness and becoming ill, and possibly spreading the virus to family members and others who are at high risk. The benefits are many and include the physical, mental and emotional rewards of getting outdoors and being physically active.

Please make sure to stay away from playgrounds if your child has any signs of illness and make sure to wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol frequently. We recommend avoiding parks and playgrounds that are very crowded. Consider visiting less popular playgrounds at schools or neighborhood parks.

### **Bulk Pickup Rules Return to Pre-COVID 19 State Starting July 1, 2020**

Modified rules have been in place for trash and recycling since the COVID-19 pandemic began. These changes were put in place to help protect the City's solid waste crews while continuing to provide a modified service. Many thanks to residents for their understanding and cooperation in complying with the temporary rules.

**Starting July 1, 2020**, collection of bulk and large metal items will return to the way they were done prior to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Bulk items are large items that cannot fit in a trashcan or bag such as sofas, mattresses, tables, etc.
- Bulk items may be set next to your trash can or bag on your regular trash collection days.
- Large metal items - metal furniture, appliances, grills (no tanks) - will be collected on Wednesdays by appointment only. Call 301-809-2344 or visit [www.cityofbowie.org/servicerequest](http://www.cityofbowie.org/servicerequest) to schedule an appointment.
- Small metal items that can fit in a trashcan, should be disposed of in that way.

Residents are asked to continue to exercise care to ensure health and safety when setting out trash. Other than large bulk items, all trash should be in closed bags or in a trash can with a lid. Medical waste and human or animal waste should always be double bagged. Glass should be protected to limit possibility of injury to collectors.

For more information, please visit [www.cityofbowie.org/trash](http://www.cityofbowie.org/trash) or call the Public Works Department at 301-809-2344.

# Bulk Pickup Returns to Normal July 1



Starting July 1, bulk pickup will return to a pre-COVID-19 state:

- Bulk items may be set alongside regular trash on regular trash collection days.
- Large metal items will be collected on Wednesdays by appointment only.
- Schedule an appointment at [www.cityofbowie.org/servicerequest](http://www.cityofbowie.org/servicerequest) or call 301-809-2344.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [WWW.CITYOFBOWIE.ORG/TRASH](http://WWW.CITYOFBOWIE.ORG/TRASH) OR CALL 301-809-2344



## County Reopens Hazardous Waste & Electronics Sites & Hosts Bulk Trash Drop Off Days

The Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Recycling Acceptance sites at the Brown Station Landfill in Upper Marlboro has reopened. These sites are open Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Visit [environment.mypgc.us](http://environment.mypgc.us) for a list of acceptable items.

For the next several weeks, Prince George's County will also be operating bulk trash drop off collection sites throughout the county on specific dates. [View details and schedule](#). City residents are eligible to take advantage of these drop off sites even though trash collection service is provided by the city

## COVID-19 Testing

- The Six Flags America testing site is open Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. No appointment or doctor's order is required to get a test at this site. Patients who are tested at this and other state-operated sites will be contacted with their results, typically within two to five days. The VEIP site in Clinton has closed.
- **Now More Than 150 Testing Sites Statewide.** With expanded capacity and supplies available, the state has broadened the criteria for COVID-19 testing to include those who are asymptomatic. Visit the [state coronavirus website](#) to find a location that is most convenient for you.
- **Prince George's County Health Department is now operating several testing sites in the County.** Testing is by appointment only. Call 301-883-6627 for assistance.

## Summer Meals Program for School Children

Prince George's County Schools school year meal distribution program ended Wednesday, June 17. It will be replaced with a summer "grab and go" program that will operate Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon at various schools, libraries, and neighborhoods throughout the County, including **Benjamin Tasker Middle School**, High Bridge Elementary School, and **Pointer Ridge Elementary School** in Bowie. The program

runs from June 29 through August 13. View the full list of summer meal locations on the [PGCPS website](#).

### **Check out Prince George's County Library System's Online Resources and Programs**

The Library System offers a wide variety of services to County residents including electronic books, classes, discussions, "couch concerts" and much more. View their [Virtual Calendar of Events](#).

### **County Executive Hosting a COVID-19 Update Tonight – June 18, 6:30 p.m.**

County Executive Angela Alsobrooks will host a Tele-Town Hall to provide an update on the County's response to COVID-19. Registration for this event is closed, but the event can be viewed live on CTV Comcast channels 70 and 76 (FIOS 41 and 42). You can also call 855-756-7520, extension 62540# to listen to the conversation.

### **Attention Small Minority or Women Owned Businesses Affected by the Pandemic**

Lowe's Companies Inc. has established a \$25 million grant program to help small minority or woman owned businesses stay afloat during the pandemic. Details are in a [press release](#) issued on June 11.

## **Other News...**

### **International Accreditation of Police Department**

For the past several months, the Bowie Police Department has been working toward international accreditation. As part of that process, a team of assessors will be reviewing the department's policies, procedures, management, operations and support services during the week of June 22. Public comment on this process is encouraged. Learn more at

<https://www.cityofbowie.org/DocumentCenter/View/9949/CALEA-Media-Release-Bowie-Police-Department>

### **Community Conversations: COVID-19 Preparation & Response**

This Friday, June 19 at 2 p.m., join the University of Maryland Medical System's leadership staff and local faith and community organizations for an afternoon webinar to discuss current development, advice and recommendations for preventing COVID-19 infection. No pre-registration required. View the webinar at <https://onlinexperiences.com/Launch/Event/ShowKey=87669>. To participate via audio only, dial 1-866-469-3239 with the access code: 624 231 971.

### **Fair Housing Symposium on Implicit Bias**

The City of Bowie Grants Office is hosting an online symposium on implicit bias and fair housing on Monday, June 29th from 10 – 11:30 a.m. Tenured University of Maryland professor Dr. Kris Marsh will be presenting at the Zoom meeting. Register for the event at <https://bowie.fyi/2020FairHousing>. For more information, visit [www.cityofbowie.org/fairhousing](http://www.cityofbowie.org/fairhousing).

### **Virtual Bowie Advisory Planning Board Meeting on Bowie Town Center/Sears Parcel**

The public is invited to participate in the meeting this Tuesday, June 23, 2020 from 7 - 9 p.m. The applicant, Seritage SRC Finance, LLC, is proposing to redevelop the existing 10.81-acre Sears Property with: up to 800 residential dwelling units (multifamily, townhouses (not to exceed 150 units) and/or beds in an assisted living facility); retail uses, including restaurants and shops; a hotel use, with a maximum of 150 rooms; and/or office uses. Join the meeting at <https://bowie.fyi/BTC-BAPB-publichearing>. For more information contact Frank Stevens at [fstevens@cityofbowie.org](mailto:fstevens@cityofbowie.org) or by calling 301-809-3047.

- [Public Hearing Letter](#)
- [Agenda](#)
- [Staff Report](#)

### **SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans and Advance Program Reopened**

To further meet the needs of U.S. small businesses and non-profits, the U.S. Small Business Administration reopened the [Economic Injury Disaster Loan \(EIDL\) and EIDL Advance program](#) portal to all eligible applicants experiencing economic impacts due to COVID-19.

For more information, visit [U.S. Small Business Administration website](#).

### **Renter's Tax Credit Available to Eligible Maryland Renters**

The State of Maryland is providing a direct check payment of up to \$1,000/year to Maryland renters who meet certain eligibility requirements. For more information in the eligibility requirements and to apply online, visit the [Maryland One Stop website](#). The deadline to submit your application is September 1, 2020.

### **Bowie, Help Us Reach a 100% Census Response Rate**

Bowie, we're almost there! Did you know 21.6% of Bowie residents still have not responded to the census? That number may not seem like a lot, but it adds up to millions of dollars that the city could lose. Each resident counted on the census means another \$18,500 in funding over a ten year period for community programs, road repairs, public transport, Medicaid, and more. Let's make every dollar count.

[Fill out your 2020 Census today](#). If you have already filled it out, reach out to remind your friends, families, and neighbors.