



BOWIE SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

Phone: 301-262-6200

www.cityofbowie.org

July 2020

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Modified Phase Two Reopening

City leaders will open all City government facilities just as soon as it is safe and permissible to do so. This will require a phased approach for returning to regular normal operations. The City will follow the guidance of the State and County during all recovery phases.

Since the pandemic began, City services have been modified in accordance with orders and guidance issued to protect employees and to limit the spread of the disease. Many of our essential employees have continued to do their jobs throughout this health crisis. Police officers, dispatchers, trash and recycling crews, water and sewer plant personnel, the emergency management team, and others have continued to report to work every day and serve the residents of Bowie. Other employees continue to do their jobs from home. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we all work through this continuing emergency together. We look forward to the time when we can resume normal operations.

On **June 1, 2020**, the Stay-at-Home Order was lifted for Prince George's County and a Modified Stage One Reopening began. Some City employees returned to work. Others who are able, continue to telework. On **June 15, 2020**, Prince George's County began a Modified Phase Two Reopening. A number of non-essential businesses and services reopened with modifications. The City of Bowie has implemented the following steps for Stage Two:

- City Hall is open 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday thru Friday, for limited services including pet licenses, water bill payments, permits, rental housing licenses, and notary services (by appointment only).
- The Bowie Police Department lobby is open for window service.
- All visitors to City Hall are required to wear a mask, have their temperature taken with a touchless thermometer, answer health screening questions, and practice social distancing.
- Playgrounds are open. Low contact sports are permitted on ballfields (10 person limit). Some fields may be closed for maintenance. Call the Ballfield Status Line at 301-809-1909.
- Parks are open for fitness classes and the use of fitness equipment. Restrooms are open at Allen Pond and Whitmarsh Parks.

All City events are canceled through **July 9**. All summer concerts are canceled through **July 31**. More information and updates may be found on the City's coronavirus page at www.cityofbowie.org/corona.

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.

There are 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, <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/symptoms-testing#siteapp> for the most up-to-date information on locations, dates and hours of service.

The Prince George's County Health Department operates several sites in the County. Testing at these sites is by appointment only. Call **301-883-6627** for assistance.

City Council Meetings to Note

- **July 6** City Council Meeting, 8 p.m. RFP Review and Selection for Public/Private Partnership for Existing Ice Arena, Sears Property Redevelopment
- **July 13** City Council Meeting, 8 p.m. Bowie Golf Course - Discussion on the Future of Bowie Golf

City Council meetings are held virtually during this emergency. You may view them at www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings or on FIOS Channel 10 or Comcast Channels 71 and 996.

Those wishing to submit comments for public hearings or the Citizen Participation portion of Regular Meetings may do so by emailing written or video testimony to cityclerk@cityofbowie.org. Testimony must be received by 7 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Meeting agendas are posted at www.cityofbowie.org/agenda. For help, contact City Clerk Awilda Hernandez at **301-809-3029**.

Bulk Trash and Metal Pickup Return to Normal July 1

Modified rules have been in place for trash and recycling since the COVID-19 pandemic began. These modifications were implemented in an effort to protect the City's solid waste personnel while maintaining 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 it was done prior to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Bulk items are large items that cannot fit in a trashcan or bag; items include sofas, mattresses, tables, etc.
- Bulk items may be set alongside your regular trash on the normal 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 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 information, visit www.cityofbowie.org/trash or call the Public Works Department at **301-809-2344**.

Farmers' Market is Open

A modified version of the Bowie Farmers' Market is open on Sunday mornings with special measures in place to enforce social distancing and to protect vendors and customers from the spread of COVID-19. The Market is held Sundays through October, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., in the parking lot at Bowie High School. **This year's Market will be entirely drive-thru.** For information and a list of participating vendors, please visit www.cityofbowie.org/farmersmarket.

Keep Bowie Clean and Safe

Please dispose of all Personal Protective Equipment - gloves, face masks, etc. - in a trash receptacle. Do not drop on the ground, sidewalk, grass or parking lot. Let's keep everyone safe!

2020 Census

Currently, 78% of Bowie households have completed the 2020 Census. We know that we can do better. Federal law requires that every household complete the Census. The 10-year census helps to determine funding for schools, transportation, emergency response, and other services. Please do your part to make sure Bowie counts and receives its fair share of funding. Learn more at www.2020census.gov.

All information provided is subject to change based on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic. To obtain the most up to date information, please visit www.cityofbowie.org/corona.

ADULTS 55+

Bowie Senior Center
www.cityofbowie.org/seniorcenter
301-809-2300

The Senior Center is closed to the public.

Staff is available Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., to answer questions and assist with referrals; call 301-809-2300.

SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAM You may be eligible to receive seven frozen meal packs delivered to your home weekly. For information, contact the Prince George's County Department of Aging at 301-265-8475.

BOWIE FOOD PANTRY Provides food to needy residents of Bowie. New clients must show ID with proof of Prince George's County address. For more information, call 301-262-6765 or visit www.bowiefoodpantry.org.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS Volunteers provide assistance with grocery shopping and prescription pick up so seniors may stay home. For information, please visit www.cityofbowie.org/nhn or call 240-544-5601.

CITY GYM

Bowie Senior Center
4100 Northview Drive
301-809-2388

The Gym is closed to the public.

Basketball Camp is canceled due to COVID-19 related concerns.

ICE ARENA

3330 Northview Drive
301-809-3090

The Ice Arena is closed to the public.

SUMMER CAMPS The Ice Arena is accepting registration for **August** half-day, full-day and specialty camps; visit www.cityofbowie.org/icearena

***Please note:** Camps could be canceled due to COVID-19 related concerns.

ALERT BOWIE

Sign up for Alert Bowie at www.cityofbowie.org/alerts to receive information from the City of Bowie, including trash and recycling updates, weather alerts, employment, newsletters, and crime alerts.

Those that don't want to complete an Alert Bowie registration can still receive Bowie COVID-19 alerts by texting COBCOVID19 to 888777.

CITY COUNCIL

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Mayor Pro Tem Adrian Bofo
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CITY MANAGER

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