



YOUR BOWIE UPDATE

News from the City of Bowie | July 2020



On the Road to Recovery

After a long hiatus due to the pandemic, City Hall has reopened to the public, with limited in-person services.

Following the lead of the state and county, Bowie has developed a phased-in approach to recovery. Each phase of the plan is subject to orders issued by the Governor and County Executive. Bowie government is currently in Phase Two, which allows for the return of some outdoor activities as well as a limited reopening of City Hall. Phase Two will be the longest as health and government officials monitor the impact reopening has on case numbers and hospitalizations before making decisions on whether to move forward.

Open Now

- Service windows at City Hall for Animal Control, Code Enforcement, Rental Licenses, & Water Bill Payments
- Police Department lobby for obtaining police reports, paying speed cameras, and conducting other Police Department business
- Farmers' Market (with COVID19 restrictions)
- Parks and Playgrounds
- Fitness equipment in parks
- Ballfields for youth sports and low contact sports (maximum 10 per field). Practices only; no competitions.
- Outdoor basketball and tennis courts

Beginning Week of July 6

- City Gymnasium open with restrictions
- Permits required for ballfields. Residents only.
- Picnic permits required for pavilions and other permitted areas (max 100). Residents only.
- Ice Arena open with restrictions

(*) Please note: Capacity and other limitations are in effect, per the latest Prince George's County Executive

Order that went into effect on June 29. View more information at www.cityofbowie.org.

Still Closed, Canceled, or Suspended

- Historic Properties, Senior Center, Kenhill Center
- Conference room reservations
- Concerts at Allen Pond Park (through at least July 31)
- City events
- In-person meetings (City Council, committees, stakeholder, and town hall meetings are all being conducted virtually.)

The next phase of the City's reopening plan allows for reopening of other city facilities and resumption of some activities, such as some indoor sports and possibly small events where social distancing is possible. The date for Phase 3 has not been determined yet.

What to Expect When You Come to City Hall

When visiting City Hall you will be required to wear a mask, have your 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 visiting the building. If you do not wish to abide by these requirements, you will not be permitted to enter.

Business will be conducted at the windows in the lobby of City Hall, the Police Department, and at the Finance Department (for water bills). An appointment can be made for some of these services to limit your time in the building.

Some refinements of these rules may be necessary as we gain experience with this stage of recovery. We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Reminder: 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 or to schedule appointments for service. We strongly encourage you to continue conducting city business by phone or online if it is possible to do so.

Bulk Trash, Metal Pickup, and Recycling Changes

Starting July 1, 2020, trash collection returns to normal:

- Bulk items may be set alongside trash on your regular trash collection days.
- Bulk items are large items that cannot fit in a trash can or bag; items include sofas, mattresses, tables, etc.
- 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 trash can, should be disposed of in that way.

Residents are asked to continue exercising care to ensure health and safety when setting out trash.

This information was current as of print time. It is subject to change as new orders or guidance are issued by the State of Maryland, Prince George's County, and the Centers for Disease Control.

Other than large bulk items, trash should be in closed bags or a can with a lid. No medical waste and human or animal waste should always be double bagged. Glass should be protected to limit possibility of injury to collectors.

Loose cardboard is once again accepted on recycling day. Please place flattened boxes next to your recycling cart.

For more information, please visit www.cityofbowie.org/trash or call the Public Works Department at **301-809-2344**.

For the next several weeks, Prince George's County will operate bulk trash drop off collection sites throughout the County on specific dates. Sites in Bowie include the Bowie Park & Ride and Saddlebrook East Community Park. For the schedule and more information, visit environment.mypgc.us.

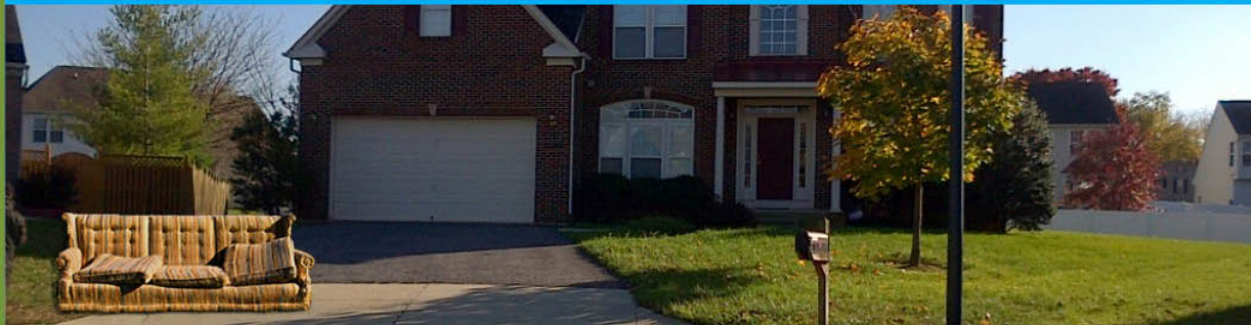
Bulk Pickup Returns to Normal July 1



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 or call **301-809-2344**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.CITYOFBOWIE.ORG/TRASH OR CALL **301-809-2344**



COVID-19 Testing

- Visit the state coronavirus website at <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/symptoms-testing> for a list of the more than 200 testing locations in Maryland.
- Prince George's County Health Department is now operating several testing sites in the County, including locations in Chillum, Laurel, and Cheverly. No appointments needed. Call **301-883-6627** for more information.

Bowie Farmers' Market Is Open

A modified version of the Bowie Farmers' Market is now open on Sunday mornings with special measures in place to enforce social distancing and to protect vendors and customers from the spread of the coronavirus. The Market is held each Sunday through October, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., in the parking lot at Bowie High School. For more information and a list of participating vendors, please visit www.cityofbowie.org/farmersmarket.

Sign Up for 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.



Virtual City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are being held virtually during this emergency. While the public cannot attend Council meetings in person, they may submit testimony for public hearings or comments for the Citizen Participation portion of an upcoming Council meeting by emailing written or video testimony to cityclerk@cityofbowie.org. Testimony must be received by 7 p.m. on the day of the meeting. For help, contact City Clerk Awilda Hernandez at **301-809-3029**.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

In response to COVID-19, the City has expanded the volunteer-based Neighbors Helping Neighbors program to offer free grocery and medication delivery for seniors (55+) and disabled residents of the City of Bowie. Those most vulnerable can stay home and allow volunteers to shop for groceries and deliver goods to their home. Seniors are only responsible for reimbursing the volunteer for the cost of the groceries. There is no delivery fee.

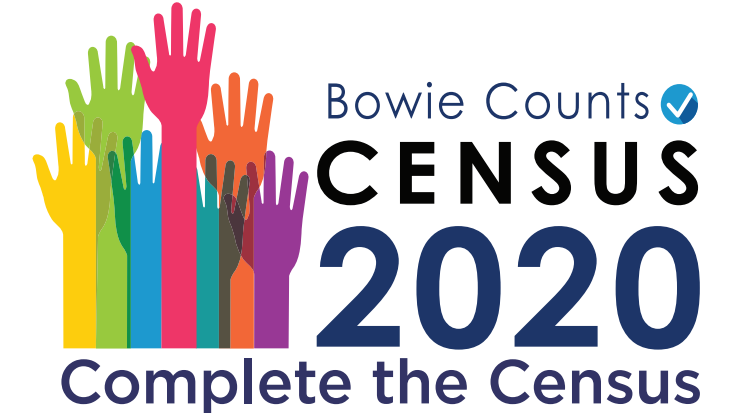
If you are a City of Bowie senior or disabled person in need of assistance, please complete the NHN Senior or Disabled Application at www.cityofbowie.org/nhn. If you would like to volunteer to help seniors or disabled residents, please complete the NHN Volunteer Application at www.cityofbowie.org/nhn.

For more information, contact Lori Cunningham at **240-544-5601** or lcunningham@cityofbowie.org.

2020 Census

To date, 78% of Bowie households have completed the 2020 Census. Let's make it 100%! 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. Let's do our part to make sure Bowie counts and receives its fair share of funding. Learn more at www.2020census.gov.



Senior Services

The Senior Center is closed but staff is available to provide information and assistance to senior residents of Bowie who are 55+. Homebound meals and Bowie Food Pantry deliveries continue for those with financial need. Cloth masks are available for Seniors who still do not have one. For more information call **301-809-2300**.

Keeping Bowie Looking Good

Bowie Code Compliance Officers returned on June 2 after the Stay at Home Order was lifted. They are back in the field making sure that Bowie neighborhoods and commercial areas are looking good.

Here are some reminders about maintaining your property:

- Grass should be cut regularly and not exceed eight inches in height.
- Trash and recycling containers should be stored at the side or rear of the house and should not be at the curb until 5 p.m. on the evening before your collection day.
- Vehicles with flat tires or expired tags are inoperable and cannot be stored on your property or the street.

It may take some time for officers to catch up on the backlog of complaints, but we encourage you to report problems that need addressing to keep Bowie looking attractive and inviting. Reporting can be done online at www.cityofbowie.org/servicerequest or call **301-809-3008**. Also, please note that rental housing inspections resumed on July 1.



THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND

15901 Excalibur Road

Bowie, MD 20716

301-262-6200

Keep Bowie Clean and Safe

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



Bowie Faces of Kindness Award

Throughout the pandemic, Bowie residents have triumphed in the face of the virus by spreading kindness to their neighbors. To honor those residents, businesses and organizations who have engaged the community and performed extraordinary acts of kindness to make life better in this difficult time, the City of Bowie is announcing the *Bowie Faces of Kindness Award*.

Whether it's the neighbor making masks for seniors, the people delivering groceries to vulnerable residents, or the volunteers cooking and delivering meals to essential workers or neighbors who can't leave their homes, we see the faces

of kindness in our residents every day. The *Bowie Faces of Kindness Award* recognizes these everyday heroes who give us hope in these challenging times.

The City will honor recipients with a special *Bowie Faces of Kindness Award* to recognize our neighbors - our local heroes - who've engaged and supported the community during the pandemic. Honorees will receive a citation and be featured on the City's social media platforms and in other public communications.

Honorees should live in the incorporated city limits of Bowie or have provided an act of kindness to our residents. Nominations should include the name, address, telephone number and email address of the individual(s) and a brief description (100 words or less) of their acts of kindness as it relates to helping others during the COVID-19 crisis.

Complete the form at www.cityofbowie.org/kindnessaward or mail your nomination to Bowie City Hall - Attention: Faces of Kindness - 15091 Excalibur Road - Bowie, MD 20716. For more information, email Lori Cunningham at lcunningham@cityofbowie.org.