



# BOWIE SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

Phone: 301-262-6200

[www.cityofbowie.org](http://www.cityofbowie.org)

August 2020

[facebook.com/bowiemd](https://facebook.com/bowiemd)

[twitter.com/cityofbowie](https://twitter.com/cityofbowie)

[instagram.com/cityofbowie](https://instagram.com/cityofbowie)

## What's In the Numbers?

Many of us are regularly looking at a variety of data related to COVID-19 and trying to make sense of it all. Case numbers, deaths, positivity rates, tests completed, recovered cases, and hospitalizations all tell a piece of the story, but sometimes it's difficult to assess what is important in the numbers.

Case numbers are cumulative and show how many people have tested positive for the virus. They are a factor of how much testing is being done. The numbers do not include those who had the virus, but did not get tested.

Death figures are based on the reported cause of an individual's death. Underlying conditions are a huge determinant of COVID-19 related deaths. People of all ages are succumbing to the virus; however, the older one is, the greater one's chances are of losing his or her life to the virus.

Testing helps medical providers, government officials and the public learn how widespread the virus is in a particular jurisdiction by locating both the symptomatic cases and those without symptoms. The success of testing programs is dependent on testing availability and who chooses to get tested. Maryland has made it a goal to test at least 10% of the population.

Positivity rates are based on the percentage of positive cases out of all those being tested during a specific timeframe. A downward moving positivity rate is an indicator of declining spread of the disease and a climbing positivity rate shows the infection rate is increasing.

In Maryland, positivity rates are declining as more tests are conducted. Hospitalization rates are jumping around a bit. Case numbers are higher than they were a few weeks ago, but fewer people are dying from the disease. Overall, Maryland is in better shape than many other parts of the country, but it is only through continued vigilance, social distancing, wearing masks, and good hygiene that we can prevent another surge in our state.

## COVID-19 Testing

Find a testing site on the Maryland website: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov>

Find a testing site on the Prince George's County website: [www.princegeorgescountymd.gov](http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov) or call 301-883-6627

## City Phase Two Operating Status (subject to change)

- **City Hall** Open for water bills, picnic reservations, animal control, permits, and code enforcement
- **Police Department** Lobby open
- **Gym** Open to members
- **Ballfields** Open only for small non-contact practices (permit required)
- **Tennis and Basketball Courts** Open
- **Parks and Playgrounds** Open
- **Farmer's Market** Open with restrictions

\*Masks are required indoors at City facilities, except while on courts at City Gym.

All City in-person events and camps are canceled through **August 31, 2020**. City Council and Committee meetings are conducted virtually. Historic properties, Kenhill Center, Bowie Playhouse and Senior Center remain closed. More COVID-19 information and updates may be found on the City's coronavirus page at [www.cityofbowie.org/corona](http://www.cityofbowie.org/corona).

## Prince George's County Schools Fall Plan

Schools CEO Monica Golson announced that PGCPSS buildings will not reopen to students in the fall. Instead, the school year will begin with distance learning. For at least the first and second quarters, instruction will be done remotely through a combination of recorded lessons and live online sessions. PGCPSS will provide devices and internet connectivity for those that need it, and the system is developing a means to provide instructional and technical support to families. Additionally, schools will serve as student meal sites. View the full announcement at [www.pgcps.org](http://www.pgcps.org).

## City Council Meeting to Note

- **August 3** City Council Meeting, 8 p.m. Sears Property Redevelopment (up to 800 dwellings, retail, hotel and office uses), City Transportation Priority Lists, Hall Station Annexation

City Council meetings are held virtually during this emergency. View them at [www.cityofbowie.org/view-meetings](http://www.cityofbowie.org/view-meetings) on FIOS Channel 10 or Comcast Channels 71 and 996 or Youtube @CityofBowieMD.

Those wishing to submit comments for public hearings or the Citizen Participation portion of Regular Meetings may do so by emailing written testimony to [cityclerk@cityofbowie.org](mailto: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](http://www.cityofbowie.org/agenda). For help, contact City Clerk Awilda Hernandez at **301-809-3029**.

## City Gym Open for Members

The City Gym is open to resident members. Basketball shootarounds and skill building sessions are permitted at this time. No games are allowed. Youth must be accompanied by an adult. Masks are required when not on the court and COVID-19 waivers must be signed before using the facility. Members are encouraged to call ahead to reserve a time slot. Visit [www.cityofbowie.org/gym](http://www.cityofbowie.org/gym) or call 301-809-2388. Also, Gym members may escape the heat and walk inside the Gym. Eleven times around equals one mile. Walking is permitted **Tuesday - Saturday, 12 - 1:30 p.m.**

## Teen Mentoring Program Needs Volunteers

When you volunteer to mentor a Bowie High School student, you will spend one hour a week building a positive relationship that has the potential to change the course of a teen's high school experience, their life, and your community! For more information, please contact Program Coordinator Tia Younger at [mentor@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mentor@cityofbowie.org) or 513-817-3158.

## New Bowie Faces of Kindness Award

The City is accepting nominations for its new Bowie Faces of Kindness Award that will honor our neighbors - our local heroes - who have engaged and supported our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Honorees will receive a Council citation and recognition via public communication channels. Honorees should live within the incorporated city limits of Bowie or have provided an act of kindness to our residents. Nominations should include the name, address, phone 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. Please complete the online form, [www.cityofbowie.org/formcenter](http://www.cityofbowie.org/formcenter), or mail the nomination to Bowie City Hall, Attention: Faces of Kindness, 15091 Excalibur Road, Bowie, MD 20716. For information, contact Lori Cunningham at [lcunningham@cityofbowie.org](mailto:lcunningham@cityofbowie.org) or 240-544-5601.

## ADULTS 55+

Bowie Senior Center  
[www.cityofbowie.org/seniorcenter](http://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](http://www.bowiefoodpantry.org).

## NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Volunteers provide assistance with grocery shopping and prescription pick up so seniors may stay home. Information: 240-544-5601 or [www.cityofbowie.org/nhn](http://www.cityofbowie.org/nhn)

## CITY GYM

Bowie Senior Center  
4100 Northview Drive  
301-809-2388

**The Gym is open to resident members.**

## ICE ARENA

3330 Northview Drive  
301-809-3090  
[www.cityofbowie.org/icearena](http://www.cityofbowie.org/icearena)

Opening soon.

## ALERT BOWIE

Sign up for Alert Bowie at [www.cityofbowie.org/alerts](http://www.cityofbowie.org/alerts) to receive information from the City of Bowie, including trash and recycling updates, weather alerts, employment, newsletters, crime alerts and COVID-19 updates.

# 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.

## CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Tim Adams  
Mayor Pro Tem Adrian Bofo  
Michael P. Esteve  
Henri Gardner  
Ingrid Harrison  
Roxy Ndebumadu  
Dufour Woolfley

## CITY MANAGER

Alfred D. Lott  
301-809-3030

**BOWIE, HELP US STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**



WASH HANDS FOR AT LEAST 20 SECONDS



MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING



COVER YOUR SNEEZES



DISINFECT COMMUNAL SURFACES



WEAR A MASK WHEN LEAVING HOME



STAY HOME AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE