**Thursday, September 17, 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Testing</th>
<th>Maryland Hospitalizations Data Tracker</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bowie Confirmed Cases: 1,922 (+16)</td>
<td>Currently Hospitalized: 353 1.7%</td>
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<td>Prince George’s County Confirmed Cases: 28,202 (+168)</td>
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<td>Total Deaths: 817 (+3)</td>
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<td>Ever hospitalized: 3,883 (+8)</td>
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<td>Case Rate per 100k: 13.68</td>
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<td>Ranking: 32nd in the nation for highest number of cases.</td>
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<td>Bowie Zip Codes:</td>
<td>Maryland Confirmed Cases 118,519 (+631)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20715: 375 (+2)</td>
<td>Deaths 28,202 (+168)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20716: 431 (+6)</td>
<td>Case Rate per 100k: 10.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20720: 481 (+3)</td>
<td>Released from Isolation: 7,286 (+25) = 6.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>20721: 635 (+5)</td>
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*These figures represent changes in the last 24 hours.*

Source: Maryland COVID-19 dashboard

Visit the [Prince George’s County COVID-19 dashboard](https://example.com) to view data for all zip codes in the County and the [Maryland dashboard](https://example.com) for statewide data.
Prince George’s County Allows More Businesses to Reopen Under Revised Phase 2 Guidelines

On September 16, County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced changes to the County’s Phase 2 of Reopening. The language below is from the County Executive’s press release.

- Banquet halls, receptions and meeting rooms in hotels, conference centers and similar establishments that offer dining or meeting facilities to the public may open at 50% capacity or a maximum of 150 persons, whichever is lower. No buffets will be allowed, there can be no more than 6 persons per table, and physical distancing must be enforced.

- Cigar, hookah and vape establishments may open for retail sales only (no smoking on premises) with a maximum of 1 person per 100 square feet of sales space, not to exceed 50% maximum capacity. Physical distancing must be maintained, and employees must wear appropriate PPE.

- Tanning salons may reopen under the same guidelines as other personal services. Customers must be served by appointment only and only 1 customer per 200 square feet of service area, up to a maximum of 50% capacity.

- Indoor pools, both public and private, may open up to 50% maximum capacity. Physical distancing must be maintained, and individuals must wear face coverings when not in the pool.

- Youth sports defined as “medium risk” may now resume in small groups, no more than nine team members and one coach, with a maximum of 100 persons in any given area. This includes sports
such as soccer, baseball, and lacrosse. A full list of medium risk sports as defined by Maryland’s Sports Commission Return to Play Committee can be found online here.

- In addition, some guidelines within the County’s Phase 2 Executive Order have been revised. For childcare facilities, parents are no longer allowed to enter the establishment for drop-off or pick-up. Also, face coverings are required for all persons in any public indoor location over the age of five, previously over the age of nine. Adults accompanying children ages two through four in these establishments should make reasonable efforts to encourage those children to wear face coverings.

Alsobrooks said the decision to reopen additional businesses was made under the advice of health officials. The county also reiterated it will maintain its existing guidelines on large gatherings, such as festivals, parties and family get-togethers with a limit of one person or family unit per 200 square feet or a maximum of 50 people, whichever is lower.

The city is reviewing this new guidance and evaluating how it may affect city operations. We have requested clarification from the county on some of the language.

**Testing Update**
Prince George’s County Health Department’s COVID-19 testing site at the Cheverly Health Center is closed Friday. Free COVID-19 tests are available on September 18 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Southern Regional Technology and Recreation Complex located at 7007 Bock Road in Fort Washington. No appointment or doctor’s note is required for testing.

**Help for Small Businesses in Prince George’s County**
Emerge Prince George’s is a partnership between the Prince George’s County Economic Development (EDC) Corporation, and the Prince George’s County Financial Services Corporation (FSC First) and the Bowie Business Innovation Center (Bowie BIC). It provides counseling sessions, webinars, and support to small businesses that are struggling because of the pandemic. To learn more, visit www.emergestrongerpgc.com

**CDC Report about COVID-19 in Children and Youth**
In a report published by the CDC, minority children and adolescents, along with those with underlying medical conditions, make up the majority of COVID-19 deaths in patients younger than 21 years of age from February 12 through July 31.

**Other News**
**A Message from the IRS**
The IRS wants beneficiaries of some federal programs to know that they may be eligible to receive payments for eligible children. Specifically, eligible retirees and recipients of Social Security retirement, survivor, or disability benefits (SSDI), Railroad Retirement benefits, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and VA Compensation and Pension (C&P), who do not file a tax return, should have automatically received their Economic Impact payment earlier this year where they normally receive their benefits. However, some benefit recipients missed the spring deadline to file for their children and didn’t receive $500 for each of their qualifying children. The new deadline to qualify for this payment is September 30. These benefit recipients can find more information in the Social Security, Railroad Retirement and Department of Veteran Affairs benefit recipients section of the FAQs on the IRS website. You must register with the IRS Non-Filers’ tool by September 30, 2020 to qualify. www.irs.gov/nonfilereip.
Code 101 Town Hall Meeting Video
Thanks to those who participated in last night’s virtual town hall meeting about Bowie Code Compliance. We hope that you came away from it with more knowledge about how the City’s Code Compliance Division operates and what is expected of homeowners. The questions were very helpful to the discussion. We also appreciate the suggestions that were offered and will be talking about how to implement them. If you missed the discussion, you can watch the video on YouTube or the City website.

The Census Countdown is On!
There are only 13 days left to complete the 2020 Census. The final deadline for all responses is September 30. Bowie is doing well compared to much of the country, in fact at 83.4% response rate, we’re among the 600 best performing cities and towns in the US. However, a response rate of 83% means that almost 17% of our households have not been counted yet, and every household not counted, equates to about $18,000 in lost funding over 10 years. These areas that are not being adequately counted are the very areas that will need well-funded services over the next 10 years.

Enumerators are knocking on doors all over Bowie now, trying to get non-responding households counted. You can avoid the knock on your door by completing your census now at www.2020census.gov or by calling 844-330-2020. The number to complete the census in Spanish is 844-468-2020.

If you would like to see how your neighborhood is doing in responding, visit www.cityofbowie.org/census.
Important Election Information & Dates

- General Election: November 3, 2020, polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- General Election Early Voting: Monday, October 26, 2020 - Monday, November 2, 2020, polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- The City of Bowie Gymnasium will be a voting site for Early Voting and Election Day Voting; it will also have a drop-off box for completed mail-in ballots.
- The Board of Elections has published the full list of Election Day Vote Centers and Early Voting locations for Prince George’s County.

Prince George’s County Board of Elections 301-341-7300
Maryland Board of Elections 410-269-2840

Please note:
The Postal Service recently sent a postcard to all US households about voting by mail. Unfortunately, some of the information on the card is inconsistent with the State of Maryland’s election guidelines. According to a statement issued by the State Board of Elections, if you wish to vote by mail, you should apply for the ballot as soon as you can. Do not wait. Your application to vote by mail must be received by October 20.

Additionally, no postage is required to return a ballot that a voter received by mail. If you choose to have the mail-in ballot mailed to you, it will come with a pre-paid postage return envelope. If you choose to have your ballot emailed to you, you will need to print your ballot and pay the postage to return it.

Marylanders should visit elections.maryland.gov for election information.
Don’t Wait ★ Vote Safe!

Apply for a Mail-in Ballot Now!

Text VBM to 77788

Fill out your application online: elections.mypgc.us or elections.maryland.gov

County Board of Elections
1100 Mercantile Ln.
Suite 115A
Largo, MD 20774
Hours: Mon. – Fri.
8 AM – 4:30 PM

Go to the Prince George’s County Board of Elections to fill out and return an application in person.

Receive application in the mail and return it via the prepaid envelope or drop it off at the County Board of Elections.

#DontWaitVoteSafe