



BOWIE SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

Phone: 301-262-6200

www.cityofbowie.org

October 2020

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Fall Hydrant Flushing Begins September 28

The City of Bowie Public Works Department will begin the annual fire hydrant flushing and testing program in areas served by City water. Hydrant flushing will begin on Monday, **September 28, 2020** and will take place Monday through Friday from approximately 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Some discoloration of your water may occur and clothes washing is discouraged. If your clothes become discolored, keep them wet and re-wash them using a rust remover. Rust remover will be available, at no cost, from City Hall and Public Works offices. The water is safe for drinking and bathing even though it may be discolored. The discoloration is a result of rust and sediment build up in the water lines and is not harmful. The discoloration should clear in approximately 24 hours. However, since the water mains are all interconnected, flushing of hydrants in adjacent sections could affect your water as well. To view the hydrant flushing schedule, visit www.cityofbowie.org/flushing. For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at **301-809-2344**.

2020 General Election Information and Dates

- **General Election:** November 3, 2020, polls open 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- **General Election Early Voting:** October 26 - 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 Prince George's County Board of Elections encourages everyone to vote by mail during the COVID-19 pandemic. Any registered voter may vote by mail-in ballot. You don't need a reason to vote in this manner. It's another way to vote if you don't want to or can't vote in person on Election Day or during the Early Voting period. To obtain a mail-in ballot, follow the instructions in the graphic at right. All mail-in ballot requests must be received by the Board of Elections by **October 20, 2020**.

For More Information:

Prince George's County Board of Elections:
<http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/559/Board-of-Elections> or 301-341-7300

Maryland Board of Elections:
<https://www.elections.maryland.gov> or 410-269-2840

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

City Council Meetings to Note

- **October 5** City Council Meeting, 8 p.m. Police Department Update, City Development Policies
- **October 19** City Council Meeting, 8 p.m. City Development Policies, Detailed Site Plan #07031-04, Melford, Pod 6 (Encompass Health)

City Council meetings are held virtually during this emergency. You may view them at www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings 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. 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**.

Drive-thru Drug Take Back Day - October 24

Join the Bowie Police Department for a Drive-thru Drug Take Back Day on **Saturday, October 24, 2020, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**, at the Bowie Police Department (15901 Excalibur Road). Safely and responsibly dispose of expired or unused medications. No needles/sharps or aerosol medications. Face masks required. For more information, contact the Police Department at **240-544-5700**.

Get Lost in a Great Book with a "Celebrity" Reader

Bowie has teamed up with some local readers to provide a series of Read Aloud videos for our youngest residents. We hope you will enjoy seeing some familiar faces and have fun exploring some new books or getting reacquainted with some old favorites. We have launched this effort with five book readings that are available now; we will be adding more books soon. We will also be adding craft "how to" videos to go with some of the books. Information: www.cityofbowie.org/readaloudbooks.

Bowie-Mitchellville and Vicinity Master Plan

The Master Plan will carefully examine existing conditions and issues, and revisit the vision for the area. The Plan will also consider new strategies for future development. If you are concerned about our community's future, get involved! For details, go to <https://www.mncppc.org/3390/BowiePlan>.

Education and Community Outreach Grants

Education Grant The City of Bowie Education Committee awards grants that support education for Bowie children. This year \$15,000 is available to be awarded to successful applicants through a competitive selection process. Grants in amounts ranging from \$100-\$1,000 are awarded to teachers, parent groups, and other interested individuals from eligible community schools who have new and creative ideas for projects and programs that will enrich the students' learning experiences.

Community Outreach Grant Community Outreach Committee grants are for individuals and organizations that have plans to implement a program that will help meet the needs of City of Bowie residents in areas of social services, senior citizens, mental health and social justice. This year \$15,000 is available to be awarded to successful applicants through a competitive selection process. The maximum amount that will be awarded for any grant is \$5,000. Although applicants need not be City of Bowie residents, the grant program for which they are seeking funds must directly benefit City residents.

The application deadline for both grant programs is **October 9, 2020**. For more information, please contact Lori Cunningham at lcunningham@cityofbowie.org or 301-832-7451.

Plant One Tree On Us!

A tree giveaway aimed at increasing residential tree canopy, is now open city-wide. Online reservations for an approved tree will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis; funding is available for 100 trees (one per parcel). Information: 301-809-3043 or twright@cityofbowie.org or www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie

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.

PACKET GIVEAWAY

October 13 & 14, 10 - 11 a.m.
Drive by and pick up an activity packet and sweet treat to celebrate Autumn.

SAGE CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES

Virtual Fall session starts October 12. Register now.

PRINTMAKING ARTIST

Virtually meet SAGE instructor and printmaking artist, David Brosch, and view his work here: <https://youtu.be/kjvoN2XREog>

CITY GYM

4100 Northview Drive
301-809-2388
Monday-Friday, 12 - 7:30 pm

Open to resident members with up to two guests. Members are encouraged to call ahead to reserve a time slot.

Games are not permitted.

Walking, shoot-around and other passive skill-building activities are permitted.

If you are a City of Bowie resident and would like to apply for a membership or renew your membership, please call **301-809-2388** to make an appointment.

Face masks are required at all times.

ICE ARENA

3330 Northview Drive
301-809-3090
www.cityofbowie.org/icearena

Open with restrictions.

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, crime alerts and COVID-19 updates.

2020 CENSUS

The last day to complete the Census is **September 30, 2020**. Households may respond online at www.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**