



# BOWIE SPOTLIGHT

The Official Newsletter of the City of Bowie

Phone: 301-262-6200

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

April 2021

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## Hydrant Flushing Begins April 5

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, **April 5, 2021** 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](http://www.cityofbowie.org/flushing). For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at **301-809-2344**.

## City Council Meetings to Note

- April 5** Regular City Council Meeting, 8 p.m. Comcast presentation, County Economic Development Briefing
- April 12** Special City Council Meeting, 8 p.m. Introduction of Budget Ordinance & CIP Resolution

City Council meetings are held virtually during this pandemic. You may view them at [www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings](http://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](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**.

## Budget Review Begins in April

City Council begins reviewing the Proposed FY22 Budget and Capital Improvements Program in April. This Budget takes effect **July 1, 2021**. Meetings begin at 8 p.m. Meetings are virtual.

- April 12 Budget Introduction, Public Hearing, & Budget Worksession #1** – General Fund Revenues, Capital Improvement Program, and Capital Projects Fund
- April 19 Budget Worksession #2** - Public Works Department and Water and Sewer Fund
- April 26 Budget Worksession #3** - Community Services Department
- April 28 Budget Worksession #4** City Manager's Office, Police, Finance and Nondepartmental
- May 3 Budget, CIP and Constant Yield Tax Rate Public Hearing**
- May 10 Budget Worksession #5** - Planning and Community Development, Information Technology, Equipment Acquisition and Replacement Fund, General Fund Summaries, and Appendix (including the Plan of Compensation)
- May 17 Adoption of Budget and Capital Improvements Program**

## Green Citizens Award

Every year, the City of Bowie Green Team Executive Committee and Environmental Advisory Committee give one dedicated citizen the Green Citizen Award. It is given at the Bowie Green Expo and recognizes someone's outstanding work for the environment, education, outreach, etc. This year, we recognize one OUTSTANDING organization and a few other remarkable groups below; **thanks to all!**

**Bowie Interfaith Food Pantry** - This includes pantry workers, volunteers of the garden that supplies the pantry with fresh fruits and vegetables, donors, and everyone else involved in this amazing process! The pantry feeds so many, and works tirelessly in the community to ensure equal access to foods for all.

**Work From Homers** - Those of you stuck in the house for a year have done the environment a lot of good. You really have saved gas and if you are a parent, you really have rocked it this year keeping everything together at home.

**Composters and Food Waste Program Participants** - Did you know that each week, families participating in the City Food Waste Program send about 6 pounds of food waste to the composting facility?

**Teachers** - You all have outdone yourselves. Hats off to all of you!

**Frontline Workers** - We are so proud to be surrounded by frontline workers and heroes proving that all heroes, in fact, do not wear capes. They are our own family members and neighbors.

## Drug Take-Back Day - April 24

Join the Bowie Police Department for a Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, **April 24, 2021**, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., outdoors 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.

## Healthy Yard for Bees, Birds, Pets and People

Join us on **April 29 at 6:30 p.m.** for a new sustainability webinar on how to have a healthy yard for all critters and people who share the space. Bonnie Raindrop of the Smart On Pesticides Coalition and Dr. Doebe from George Washington University will be the panelists walking us through why it's important to have a healthy yard, how best to achieve this, and the impact on pollinators in our area. Look for the signup link on the City calendar or social media accounts in the near future. For questions, please contact [adiaz@cityofbowie.org](mailto:adiaz@cityofbowie.org).

## Donate to the Bowie Food Pantry

Donate to the Bowie Police Department Food Drive in support of the Bowie Food Pantry. The last day to drop off food donations is **April 30, 2021**. Please drop off items at the Bowie Police Department, 15901 Excalibur Road (lower level). For more information, contact the Police Department at 240-544-5700.

## Door to Door Sales

Everyone who goes house to house selling merchandise or services, offering free estimates, or leaving informational flyers at your door (except non-profit organizations) must have an individual City of Bowie Solicitors Permit with picture. If a solicitor cannot provide a City Permit, we ask that you refrain from doing business with them. To report a company soliciting without a permit, please submit a company brochure or business card and the street they were soliciting to [codecompliance@cityofbowie.org](mailto:codecompliance@cityofbowie.org) or call 301-809-3008.

## Annual Stream Team Clean-up Update

This year's clean-up was again canceled due to Covid-19, but you can still help protect our streams. By getting outdoors and sprucing up your yard, street, or neighborhood this spring, you can reduce the amount of trash and pollution that goes into Bowie's streams and the Chesapeake Bay. Trash that is collected can be placed at the curb with your household trash. Send a photo of you and your family, and you may be featured in the Green Bowie e-newsletter in May 2021. Questions or photo submission? Contact Tiffany Wright, Watershed Manager at 301-809-3043 or [twright@cityofbowie.org](mailto:twright@cityofbowie.org).

## MUSEUMS

301-809-3089 or [museumevents@cityofbowie.org](mailto:museumevents@cityofbowie.org)

Open with restrictions. Call for more information.

## ADULTS 55+

Bowie Senior Center  
14900 Health Center Drive  
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.

## APRIL ACTIVITY PACKET DRIVE-THRU

April 7, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Puzzles, exercises & creative ideas.

## HERB GARDENING

Videos on how to plant, propagate, prune, and harvest herbs. Contact the Center for details.

## SPRING CHORALE CABARET

April 23, 7 p.m. via Zoom. Music, humor, magic and more. Register at <https://bowie.fyi/srcabaret>

## ICE ARENA

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

Open with restrictions for public skating, pick up figure skating, stick and puck. Due to capacity limits, please call ahead to make reservations.

## CITY GYM

4100 Northview Drive  
301-809-2388  
[www.cityofbowie.org/gym](http://www.cityofbowie.org/gym)  
Hours: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

The Gym is restricted to resident members with up to two guests. Face masks are required at all times.

Walking: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Drop-in pickleball and volleyball: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

## 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.

## CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Timothy J. Adams  
Mayor Pro Tem Adrian Boafu  
Michael P. Esteve  
Henri Gardner  
Ingrid S. Harrison  
Roxy Ndebumadu  
Dufour Woolfley

## CITY MANAGER

Alfred D. Lott  
301-809-3030