



BOWIE BRIEF

Your Weekly Update
Wednesday, August 10, 2022

Welcome to the **Bowie Brief**, our weekly newsletter about what's going on in city government.

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Bowie News

Monkeypox Town Hall Meeting

Last week, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency for the Monkeypox virus.

In response to this recent global outbreak, Prince George's County Health Department will host a Monkeypox Virtual Townhall tonight (Wednesday, August 10), from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. This virtual townhall discussion will feature a panel of health experts who will provide important information about monkeypox. Discussion topics will include prevention, testing, treatment, and vaccinations. Participants will also have the opportunity to ask questions and get answers from health experts.

[Register](#) for the virtual townhall discussion. To learn more about monkeypox symptoms, prevention, and vaccination eligibility and appointments, visit the [County Health Department's monkeypox webpage](#) and the [City of Bowie's monkeypox page](#).

Maryland Tax Free Week

Maryland Tax-Free Week returns August 14 - 20. During that week, any single qualifying article of clothing or footwear priced \$100 or less, regardless of how many items are purchased in the same transaction, will be exempt from the state's six percent sales tax. [See a detailed list of exempt and taxable items on Maryland's website](#) and [view an FAQ document](#) about the program.

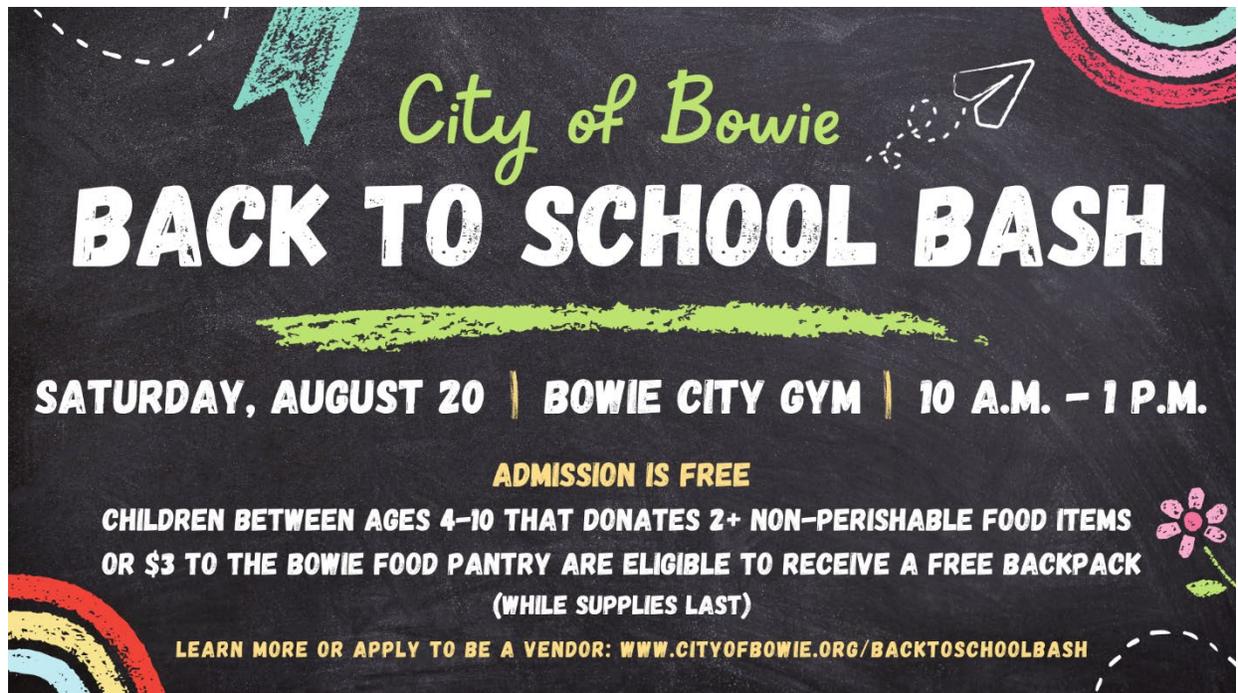
Maryland Insurance Administration Virtual Disaster Center – August 11

On Thursday, August 11 from noon to 2 p.m. and again from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m., the Maryland Insurance Administration will hold a Virtual Disaster Center to help anyone with insurance-related issues or questions about damage from severe weather events that have recently impacted Maryland. During the Virtual Disaster Center, you will be able to ask general insurance questions or to meet one-on-one with a Maryland Insurance Administration representative in a private breakout room for additional assistance. Use this [Zoom Link](#) to participate.

Back to School Bash

Mark your calendars! After a two-year COVID hiatus, the Back to School Bash is back! Celebrate the end of the summer on Saturday, August 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bowie Gym (4100 Northview Drive). There will be games, music, face painting, giveaways, refreshments, and much more.

The first 350 children ages 4 - 10 that donate \$3 or two or more non-perishable items to the Bowie Pantry at the event will receive a free backpack filled with school supplies.



Skate in the Shade

Cool off at the Bowie Ice Arena at the final Skate in the Shade on August 17 from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Protect your skin from the sun and enjoy free admission sponsored by the Shade Foundation. Skate rental is \$2 per person. Don't forget long pants and socks!

Want to keep up with free skate days and other special events at the Ice Arena? The monthly calendar of activities can be found online at www.cityofbowie.org/icearena. Call 301-809-3090 for more information.

Volunteer Mentor Opportunity

Bowie Youth & Family Services is now accepting applications for the Bowie Teen Mentor Program for the 2022 - 2023 academic year. It is a school-based mentoring program that matches an adult mentor with a student in grades 8 to 12 for in-person meetings. As a volunteer mentor you will spend one hour a week building a positive relationship with a student. It's a great opportunity to make a meaningful impact on a student's life and your community. Your involvement has the potential to change the course of a teen's school experience, how they view themselves, and how they interact with others.

For more information, please contact Program Coordinator Amanda Pumphrey at 301-809-3033 or mentor@cityofbowie.org.

Catch a Showing of “Sweat” at the Bowie Playhouse

Are you a theater lover? 2nd Star Productions will present “Sweat” at the Bowie Playhouse in Whitmarsh Park. Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for drama, “Sweat” tells the story of a group of friends who have spent their lives sharing drinks, secrets, and laughs while working together on the factory floor. But when layoffs and picket lines begin to chip away at their trust, the friends find themselves pitted against each other in a heart wrenching fight to stay afloat. The show will run August 19 through September 3. Visit www.2ndstarproductions.org for tickets and more information.

Learn more about the Bowie Playhouse and upcoming shows at www.cityofbowie.org/playhouse.



Lawn Care Equipment Rebate Program

Electric lawn mowers, as well as mulching mowers, will be rebated at the current rate of \$50. Electric weed whackers, hedge trimmers, and leaf blowers will each be rebated at \$25. If you purchase all four tools at once, you will be eligible for a \$150 rebate.

Please bring your receipt/proof of purchase and proof of residency to the Finance Department window at City Hall, Monday - Friday between 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Purchases must be made on or after July 1, 2022.

Only residents who live within the municipal limits of the City of Bowie are eligible for these rebates. Only one rebate will be issued per item, per household. Please call 301-809-3044 if you have further questions.

Sunday Sunset Concert: “US Navy Sea Chanters” – Broadway Music

Sunday, August 14, 7 p.m.

Enjoy a free Sunday evening concert performance by “US Navy Sea Chanters” on Sunday, August 14 at 7 p.m. at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater at Allen Pond Park. Summer concerts are held on Sunday evenings through Labor Day weekend. Admission is free and each show begins at 7 p.m.

If you are unable to attend in person, you can still view the concerts live on Sunday evenings at 7 p.m. on Comcast Channel 71 and 996 or Verizon Channel 10.

Cancellations may occur in the case of inclement weather. Because summer storms often pass through quickly, decisions about concert cancellations will not be made until right before the concert is scheduled to take place. Notices about cancellations will be posted on the [City website](#), and on the City's [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter feed](#).



Job Openings

The City of Bowie is currently seeking candidates for several positions listed below. Full time employees are eligible for medical, dental, vision, life and long-term care insurance, a 401(k) with employer match, and a 457 savings plan. They also have paid holidays and earn leave. Visit www.cityofbowie.org/jobs for links to job postings.

Closing 8/19/2022

- [Wastewater Operator Trainee/ Wastewater Operator](#) – Public Works Department

Closing 8/26/2022

- [Part time Contracts/Permits Specialist](#) - Public Works Department

Open until filled

- [Entry Level Police Officer](#) – Police Department
- [Communications Specialist II](#) – Police Department
- [Network Administrator](#) – Information Technology
- [Water Plant Superintendent](#) – Public Works Department
- [Water Plant Trainee/Operator](#) - Public Works Department
- [Solid Waste Collector](#) – Public Works Department
- [Part time Bus Driver](#) – Community Services
- [Part time Theater Technician](#) – Community Services

Visit <http://www.cityofbowie.org/jobs> for details or to apply.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Thursday, August 11

- [Senior Program: Better Day Live Chats! - Life is Better with Plans](#) | 9:30 a.m.

Friday, August 12

- [Kid’s Kaboose at Bowie Railroad Museum](#) | 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, August 14

- [Bowie Farmers’ Market](#) | 8 a.m.
- [Sunday Sunset Concert: “US Navy Sea Chanters”](#) | 7 p.m.

Wednesday, August 17

- [Skate in the Shade #4](#) | 12 p.m.

Thursday, August 18

- [Senior Program: Better Day Live Chats! - Self Care](#) | 9:30 a.m.

Friday, August 19

- [Wine and Design at Belair Mansion: Decorative Throw Pillows](#) | 7 p.m.
- [Bowie Playhouse: “Sweat”](#) | 8 p.m.

Saturday, August 20

- [Back to School Bash at the City Gym](#) | 10 a.m.
- [Bowie Playhouse: “Sweat”](#) | 8 p.m.

Sunday, August 21

- [Bowie Farmers’ Market](#) | 8 a.m.
- [Sunday Sunset Concert: “Smooth Band”](#) | 7 p.m.
- [Bowie Playhouse: “Sweat”](#) | 2 p.m.

Wednesday, August 24

- [Community Outreach Grant Virtual Application Clinic](#) | 7 p.m.

Friday, August 26

- [Bowie Playhouse: “Sweat”](#) | 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 27

- [Victorian Braid Work Class at Belair Mansion](#) | 9 a.m.
- [City Council Visit to the Town of Kensington](#) | 9:30 a.m.
- [Yoga on the Green](#) | 10 a.m.

- [Bowie Playhouse: “Sweat”](#) | 8 p.m.

Sunday, August 28

- [Bowie Farmers’ Market](#) | 8 a.m.
- [Sunday Sunset Concert: “US Navy Cruisers”](#) | 7 p.m.
- [Bowie Playhouse: “Sweat”](#) | 2 p.m.

Wednesday, August 31

- [Fairy Tale Fun](#) | 10 a.m.

Visit www.cityofbowie.org/calendar for details about other upcoming events sponsored by the City.

COVID CORNER



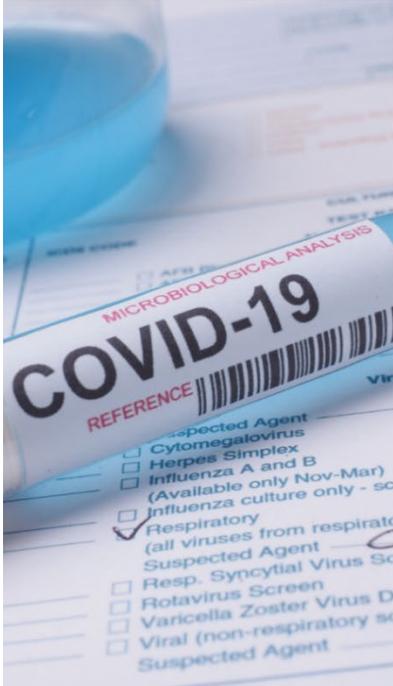
COVID Update

Nationally, as of August 4, 41.7% of counties, districts, or territories have a “HIGH” COVID-19 Community Level, 38.9% have a “MEDIUM” COVID-19 Community Level, and 19.4% have a “LOW” COVID-19 Community Level.

Prince George’s, Montgomery, Howard, Charles, Wicomico, and Alleghany Counties are currently categorized as having a HIGH level of community transmission.

COVID Testing Site in Bowie

The Maryland Department of Health has opened a new COVID-19 testing site on the campus of the Bowie Health Center. The site offers free COVID-19 PCR testing on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Saturdays, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Appointments are not required, and there is no charge to patients. Free at-home test kits are also available at this site while supplies last.



BOWIE COVID PCR TESTING SITE

**BOWIE HEALTH CENTER
14999 HEALTH CENTER DR, SUITE 103**

DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION:

- Tuesday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**NO APPOINTMENT REQUIRED
COVID TESTING KITS AND KN95 MASKS AVAILABLE**

More Testing Information

The US government is distributing a third round of COVID tests. If you skipped any of the previous rounds, you'll also be able to place a second order. Request yours now - [COVID Home Tests | USPS](#)

Use the [Maryland Department of Health Test Site Locator](#) tool to find other COVID test sites statewide. Find other COVID test sites in Prince George's County by visiting www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3472/COVID-19-Testing.

COVID Data

Covid-19 Data (as of 8/10/22)			
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Bowie
Cases	1,197,484 (+1,749)	199,228 (+274)	Cases: 19,675 (+23)
Deaths	15,041 (+11)	2,223 (+0)	
Positivity Rate	11.46%	14.82%	
Case Rate Per 100K	25.44	29.28	20715: 4,1788 (+6)
Maryland Hospitalizations			20716: 4,224 (+4)
Adult	Total: 632 (-1.7%)	ICU: 69 (+13%)	20720: 5,060 (+15)
Pediatric	Total: 21 (+50%)	ICU: 10 (+150%)	20721: 6,203 (+8)
<i>Figures above in parentheses represent a two-day increase since 8/9/22.</i>			
Vaccine Progress - At Least One Dose			
	Maryland	Prince George's County	
CDC 18+	95%	95%	
CDC 5+	93.5%	95%	
Source: Maryland Department of Health at coronavirus.maryland.gov			

Prince George’s County Vaccinations

The CDC vaccination data by county is based on the percentage of the eligible population. The CDC counts people as being “fully vaccinated” if they received two doses on different days (regardless of time interval) of a two-dose mRNA series or received one dose of a single-dose vaccine. [Source](#)

Prince George's County Fully Vaccinated Residents (per CDC) as of 8/8/22	
Total #	695,245
% of Total Population	76.5%
# of Age 5+	694,985
% of Age 5+ Population	81.8%
# of Age 12+	662,783
% of Age 12+ Population	85.9%
# of Age 18+	607,872
% of Age 18+ Population	85.9%
# of Age 65+	122,186
% of Age 65 + Population	95%

Are You Up to Date on Your Immunizations?

August is recognized as National Immunization Awareness Month to promote the importance of immunizations at all life stages. Vaccination protects against severe illnesses and complications of vaccine-preventable diseases. Such illnesses include measles, polio, hepatitis, meningococcal meningitis—and now, [COVID-19](#).

Vaccinations are so vital that the CDC offers immunization schedules to help you understand if you or other loved ones are up to date on vaccinations:

- [Infants and children](#) (birth to age 6)
- [Preteens and teens](#) (ages 7 to 18)
- [Adults](#) (ages 19 and older)
- [Pregnant women](#) (before, during and after pregnancy)

Talk to your doctor for more information on vaccines or to learn more about which ones you may need.