



# BOWIE BRIEF

Your Weekly Update  
**Thursday, July 15, 2021**

Welcome to the **Bowie Brief**, our new weekly newsletter. We will be sharing news about what's going on in city government. We will also include COVID updates in this document, as needed.

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# Bowie News

## City Council Meetings

- **August 2**, 8 p.m. – City Transportation Priorities

City Council meetings are now in-person and open to the public. You may also 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](https://www.youtube.com/c/CityofBowieMD). Those wishing to submit written testimony electronically may do so by emailing [cityclerk@cityofbowie.org](mailto:cityclerk@cityofbowie.org). (The testimony will not be read during the meeting, but will be included as part of the record.) Testimony must be received by 7 p.m. on the day of the meeting. For more information, contact City Clerk Awilda Hernandez at **301-809-3029**.

## Sunday Sunset Concerts

Sunday Sunset Concerts are held each Sunday, 7 - 8 p.m., through Labor Day weekend. Concerts are canceled in case of inclement weather. Information: **301-809-3078** or [mcorley@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mcorley@cityofbowie.org).

## Summer Basketball Camp at the Bowie Gymnasium

The Bowie Gym will hold a co-ed summer basketball camp from August 2 – 6 for children ages 8 – 14. This week-long camp will teach children basketball fundamentals and drills. Campers will walk away from camp having had a positive experience with basketball. Slots are limited, so be sure to [register](#) now. Questions? Contact Camp Director Michael Lonergan at [mlonergan@cityofbowie.org](mailto:mlonergan@cityofbowie.org) or by calling 301-809-2383.

## Webinar: Audubon Wildlife Habitat Program

Bird lovers, join us for a [webinar](#) on July 15, from 6:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. to learn more about the Audubon Wildlife Habitat Program. This program offers County residents the opportunity for a no-cost, on-site, in-person visit with trained Habitat Advisors who can help them transform their properties, no matter the size, into a bird-friendly habitat. The Advisors offer guidance to homeowners on optimal native plants and design features to provide food, water, and shelter for birds, pollinators and other wildlife. Take advantage of this opportunity to take the first steps in registering your property as a certified Audubon bird-friendly home!

## Mosquito Control Program

The Maryland Department of Agriculture provides mosquito control services to the Bowie area. The mosquito control program for 2021 began with spring larviciding in March. The regular season began in May and will continue into late September. Work may continue into October, if necessary. The program consists of larviciding (control of immature stages of the mosquito), public education about the Asian tiger mosquito, and adult surveillance with possible spraying.

Residents may have their owned or leased real property excluded from the adult mosquito control spraying by submitting a request directly to the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Information on excluding a property and the required submission forms are available on the [Maryland Department of Agriculture website](#). If you need assistance locating breeding areas around your house or would like to report stagnant water near your property, call the Bowie Public Works Office at 301-809-2336.

## Upcoming Calendar of Events

### July 15

- [Webinar: Audubon Society Wildlife Habitat Program](#), 6:30 p.m.

### July 16

- Kids Kaboose at Bowie Railroad Museum, 10:30 a.m. Ages 5 - 10, with adult. Free.

### July 18

- Bowie Farmer's Market, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Sunday Sunset Concert at Allen Pond Park - 7 p.m. *Annapolis Blue Grass* will perform.

### July 20

- [\\$2 Tuesday Skates at the Ice Arena](#) – 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

### July 21

- [Skate in the Shade session at the Bowie Ice Arena](#) (free) 11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Visit [www.cityofbowie.org/calendar](http://www.cityofbowie.org/calendar) for details.



**COVID Metrics**

In the past three weeks, new daily COVID-19 cases have doubled in the US and hospitalizations are increasing. Only Maine and South Dakota are currently reporting a decreasing number of cases. Maryland’s numbers have increased a bit, but remain very low. It remains to be seen whether this is a post-holiday bump or a trend caused by the Delta variant and a return to a more normal lifestyle by most Americans.

**Prince George’s County and Bowie Vaccinations**

The CDC vaccination data by county is based on the percentage of the eligible population.

| Prince George's County Fully Vaccinated Residents<br>(as of 7/14, 3:38 p.m.) |         |
|--|---------|
| Total #  | 472,085 |
| % of Total Population  | 51.90%  |
| # of Age 12+   | 472,050 |
| % of Age 12+ Population  | 61.20%  |
| # of Age 18+   | 449,089 |
| % of Age 18+ Population  | 63.40%  |
| # of Age 65+   | 102,923 |
| % of Age 65 + Population   | 81.50%  |

| Bowie Vaccine Progress |                 |           |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|
| 20715                  |                 | 20720     |                 |
| Fully vax              | 15,382 (57.46%) | Fully vax | 14,025 (59.68%) |
| 1st dose               | 16,528 (61.75%) | 1st dose  | 15,260 (64.93%) |
| 20716                  |                 | 20721     |                 |
| Fully vax              | 12,081 (54.71%) | Fully vax | 17,132 (57.47%) |
| 1st dose               | 13,132 (59.47%) | 1st dose  | 18,697 (62.72%) |

**Vaccination Resources**

Visit [covidvax.maryland.gov](https://covidvax.maryland.gov), or call 1-855-MD-GOVAX (1-855-634-6829) for information on vaccinations.

July 10 was the last day of operations at the Six Flags America mass vaccination site in Bowie. In early February, Six Flags became the first of more than a dozen mass vaccination sites to open across the state, and over 339,087 vaccinations were administered there. At its peak, the site vaccinated 5,000 people per day.

### **Get Vaccinated at an Orioles Game**

The Maryland Department of Health has extended the partnership with the Baltimore Orioles to offer free COVID-19 vaccinations at every Orioles home game through the remainder of the regular season, on September 30.

### **\$1 Million VaxU Scholarship Promotion**

Maryland has launched the VaxU Scholarship Promotion, a \$1 million incentive program to encourage 12- to 17-year-olds to get vaccinated against COVID-19. The VaxU Scholarship Program will randomly select two \$50,000 scholarship winners per week for 8 weeks. On Monday, September 6 four winners will be selected. To qualify for the scholarship, students must both live and be vaccinated in Maryland. Learn more on the [MHEC VaxU Scholarship Promotion website](#).

### **Mobile Clinics**

Students ages 12 and over may receive a free COVID-19 vaccine at mobile clinics run by the Prince George's County Health Department. Vaccines will be administered at a mobile unit at the school sites below. Parents or guardians are welcome to accompany their child but are not required to do so. All students must bring completed consent forms to be vaccinated. Consent forms are available on the PGCPs website. It takes 5 weeks for teens to be fully vaccinated with the Pfizer vaccine. If you wish to have your student (age 12-17) vaccinated before school begins, please take advantage of one of these opportunities.

**All Mobile Clinics run from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

#### **Thursday, July 15**

William Wirt Middle School | 6200 Tuckerman St., Riverdale

#### **Friday, July 16**

Surrattsville High School | 6101 Garden Drive, Clinton

#### **Monday, July 26**

DuVal High School | 9880 Good Luck Road, Lanham

#### **Tuesday, July 27**

Dr. Henry A. Wise Jr. High School | 12650 Brooke Lane, Upper Marlboro

#### **Wednesday, July 28**

Charles Herbert Flowers High School | 10001 Ardwick Ardmore Road, Springdale

#### **Thursday, July 29**

Ernest E. Just Middle School | 1300 Campus Way N, Mitchellville  
Laurel High School | 8000 Cherry Lane, Laurel

#### **Friday, July 30**

Bowie High School | 15200 Annapolis Road, Bowie  
High Point High School | 3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville

## **COVID-19 Forbearance Relief for FHA Borrowers**

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating effect on the nation's families. While the nation is starting to see an economic recovery, far too many homeowners are still behind on their mortgage payments and have not sought help. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) wants to make sure that those who have a Federal Housing Administration (FHA)-insured mortgage and need help, have the information they need to avoid future foreclosure.

If you are struggling with payments on your FHA-insured mortgage, it is very important that you contact your mortgage servicer directly. Your mortgage servicer is the entity to which you make your mortgage payments. You may qualify for mortgage payment relief and assistance. For free advice and help understanding the information and options provided by your mortgage servicer, please contact a HUD-approved housing counseling agency. To find a HUD-approved agency, call (800) 569-4287, or use the visit [HUD's website](#). Housing counselors are trained to assess your financial situation and explain the options available to you.

Additional information can be found on HUD's website:

- [Important information for FHA borrowers](#)
- [COVID-19 resources for FHA borrowers, including how to request COVID-19 mortgage relief \(forbearance\)](#)

FHA, which is part of HUD, wants to keep you in your home, but you must act now to avoid future foreclosure. Contact your mortgage servicer or a housing counselor today to get the help you need.

## **Vaccine Boosters**

Despite Pfizer's announcement about the need for a COVID vaccine booster shot, the CDC and FDA released a joint statement on vaccine boosters last week, which in part states:

"Americans who have been fully vaccinated do not need a booster shot at this time. FDA, CDC, and NIH are engaged in a science-based, rigorous process to consider whether or when a booster might be necessary. This process takes into account laboratory data, clinical trial data, and cohort data, which can include data from specific pharmaceutical companies, but does not rely on those data exclusively. We continue to review any new data as it becomes available and will keep the public informed. We are prepared for booster doses if and when the science demonstrates that they are needed."

## **Schools**

The CDC updated its guidance for COVID-19 prevention in K-12 Schools, recommending schools maintain at least three feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated, to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least three feet, such as when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as indoor masking.

## **Visit a County Library**

Cool down this summer and visit one of the Prince George's County Memorial Library System's 17 open branch libraries. The Library is now open Monday through Saturday for full browsing and computer use, no appointment needed. Free WiFi, study rooms, printing, scanning, curbside service (by appointment), and virtual/outdoor programs are also available. Visit [pgcmls.info/reopening](http://pgcmls.info/reopening) for current hours and location details.