



BOWIE BRIEF

Your Weekly Update
Thursday, September 23, 2021

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

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Free Seasonal Flu-Shot Clinic

An annual seasonal flu vaccine is the best way to protect against the flu. This year the city is partnering with University of Maryland Capital Region Health to host a FREE flu shot clinic on September 25 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Bowie Senior Center. Only the regular dose flu vaccine will be available at this drive-through clinic. Open to anyone age 3+.

How the drive-thru clinic works:

- Flu shots are available for adults and children age 3 and older
- Vaccines are provided on a first-come first-served basis
- Wear clothing that allows easy access to your upper arm
- Everyone 3 years and older must wear a face mask
- Minors (under 18) require a parent/guardian signature of consent
- This is a drive-thru event **ONLY** - no walk-ups

Fall Hydrant Flushing

The City of Bowie Public Works Department will begin the semi-annual fire hydrant flushing and testing program in areas served by City water. Hydrant flushing will begin on **Monday, September 27**, and will take place Monday through Friday from approximately 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. in accordance with the [Fall 2021 Hydrant Flushing Schedule](#).

Some discoloration of your water may occur, and clothes washing is discouraged when flushing is taking place in your neighborhood. 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. [YouTube video](#)

The water is safe for drinking and bathing even though it may be discolored. The discoloration should clear in approximately 24 hours. However, since the water mains are all interconnected, flushing of fire hydrants could affect adjacent areas to the scheduled sections as well.

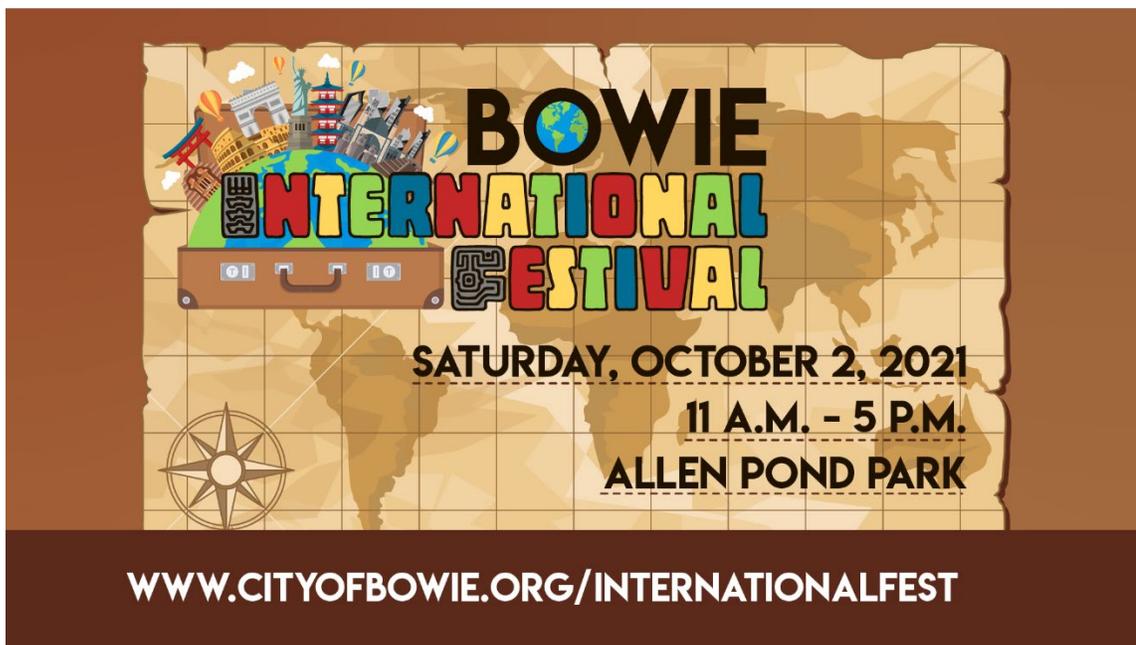
Bowie International Festival

On the first Saturday in October each year, Bowie celebrates the International Festival with a variety of entertainers, artists, crafters, food, and children's activities at Allen Pond Park. This year's festival is on Saturday, October 2, 2021 from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

You'll find:

- Entertainment on two stages
- Food from the far reaches of Asia to right here in our own backyard
- Children's activities with a "passport" to earn a prize
- Vendors selling crafts, clothing, jewelry and other offerings from around the world

For more information, visit our [International Festival page](#) and take a look at the event [brochure](#).



Bowie IMPACT

To help combat growing number of property thefts in Bowie, the Police Department is rolling out a new initiative called IMPACT: Information Matters, Police and Community Together. Through targeted patrols, the camera rebate program, education, and the promotion of good crime prevention habits, the Police and the Bowie community can work together to prevent these types of property crime.

Thieves are always looking for the easiest way to steal your valuables. Never leave your cars unlocked, and never leave car keys inside your vehicles. Patrols are actively checking areas prone to this type of property theft. Do your part and lock your car doors every evening, ensure windows and doors to your home are shut and secure, and turn on your security camera notifications (if you have them). Create a good crime prevention habit today and make sure to make securing your vehicles and your home part of your daily 9 p.m. routine.

ALWAYS report suspicious activity to the Police Department. Call 9-1-1 for a crime in progress or call the Bowie Police Communications Center at 240-544-5700. Residents can also share information, images, and videos about suspicious activity or relay concerns about other police matters by emailing IMPACT@cityofbowie.org. View Chief Nesky's [video message](#) about the program.

Bowie Police Department Offering \$500 Incentive for Officer Candidate Referral

Would you like to have a say in who becomes a Bowie Police Officer? The Police Department has a new program that rewards community members who refer successful candidates for hire. You can receive \$500 if the officer candidate you refer is hired by the department. Payment will be made upon the new hire's first day of field training. Additionally, new hires are eligible to receive a starting bonus of \$3,000 - \$9,000. For more information, please contact the Office of the Chief of Police at 240-544-5777.

Movies Around the City – “Remember the Titans” at Allen Pond Park on September 24

Our Movies Around the City series continues in September with “Remember the Titans” at Allen Pond Park. The movie will begin at dusk (approximately 7:30 p.m.). All are welcome. Bring a chair or blanket and

flashlight. Light refreshments will be available for purchase. Questions or suggestions for future movie showings can be sent to Special Events Manager Matt Corley at mcorley@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3078.

Free Shredding and Styrofoam Recycling Event – October 9

The City's next community shredding and Styrofoam recycling event is scheduled for Saturday, October 9 at the Public Works Department, located at 16500 Annapolis Road. Residents are invited to bring up to five kitchen-size trash bags or five boxes of documents to be shredded. Three shred trucks are provided at this event. The event runs from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. but may end earlier if the trucks are filled.

Weed Warriors

Flex your green thumb and earn Student Service Learning (SSL) hours while being a weed warrior this **Saturday, September 25** at 9 a.m. Help members of the Bowie Green Team remove invasive ivy from Whitmarsh Park trees. You **MUST** register in advance to participate. Email adiaz@cityofbowie.org for more information.

Fairytale Fun

Join us at the Belair Mansion on Wednesday, September 29, at 10 a.m. as we read a story and enjoy a free hands-on craft. Ages 3 - 8 years with accompanying parent or guardian. Register now: sproctor@cityofbowie.org.

Emergency Preparedness Month - Week 4 Tips: Teach Youth About Preparedness

Talk to your kids about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Reassure them by providing information about how they can get involved.

- Use these tools from FEMA including their online Ready Kids Build a Kit game: www.ready.gov/kids/games
- Get your kids involved by having them build their own emergency kit at ready.gov/kids/build-a-kit
- [Prepare with Pedro](#) is a coloring book that teaches kids about disasters through puzzles and games.
- Emergencies can happen anytime, and less than half of American families have a communication plan. Plan ahead: www.ready.gov/kids/make-a-plan
- Make preparing fun for kids! Go on a scavenger hunt around your house for items y to add to your disaster supply kit. Follow this list: www.ready.gov/kit and see how many items you can check off!
- Drills aren't just for your toolbox. Practice emergency drills with your family regularly.

More Food Distribution Events around the County

Through the County's Stand Up & Deliver program, groceries will be distributed to those in need, at the following locations:

Friday, September 24 at 12:30 p.m.

- Victory Grace Center at Port Towns Elementary School – 4351 58th Place, Bladensburg
- Turner AME Church – 7201 16th Place, Chillum/Hyattsville

Saturday, September 25 at 10 a.m.

- First Baptist Church of Highland Park – 6801 Sheriff Road, Landover
- Kingdom Fellowship @ High Point High School – 3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville

- United Baptist Church – 7701 Riverdale Road, New Carrollton

Job Openings

The City of Bowie is currently seeking candidates for the following positions:

Close 9/24/21

- [Building Maintenance Worker](#) – Community Services Dept.
- [Transportation Specialist](#) – Planning Dept.
- [Community Forester](#) – Parks & Grounds Division
- [Temporary Laborer](#) (Part-time) – Public Works & Community Services Depts.

Close 10/1/21

- [Gymnasium Supervisor](#) (Part-time) – Gymnasium
- [Gymnasium Attendant](#) (Part-time) – Gymnasium
- [Bus Driver](#) (Part-time) – Senior Center
- [Receptionist](#) (Part-time) – Senior Center

Close 10/8/21

- [Community Coordinator](#) - Youth Services Bureau

Open until filled

- [Entry Level Police Officer](#) – Police Dept.
- [Communications Specialist II](#) – Police Dept.
- [Project Manager](#) – Public Works Department

Visit www.cityofbowie.org/jobs for details or to apply.

Education Grant Applications Due October 4

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.

Be sure to get your [application](#) in before the deadline of October 4, 2021, 5 p.m.

Farmers' Market

The Bowie Farmers' Market is open 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the Bowie High School parking lot (15200 Annapolis Road), each Sunday through October 31. A variety of vendors offer fresh, locally grown produce, fruit, plants, breads, pastries, jams and jellies, eggs, beef, pork and poultry. For information, contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Bowie Master Plan Update

The Master Plan is a comprehensive master plan providing a vision for the City of Bowie and portions of the Mitchellville and Collington areas and describes how the plan area will grow and evolve over the next 25 years. The plan can be viewed at www.mncppcapps.org/planning/publications/BookDetail.cfm?item_id=391.

A virtual Joint Public Hearing of the Prince George's County Planning Board and District Council will be held on Monday, October 4th, at 5 p.m. Meeting link: <https://pgccouncil.us/LIVE>.

The City's review process included a public hearing before the Bowie Advisory Planning Board on September 14 (view the [meeting video here](#) or the [staff report here](#)) and City Council discussion and public hearing at the September 20 Regular Council Meeting. For more information, contact the Planning Department at 301-809-3045.

School Bus Drivers Needed

Prince George's County Schools are short almost 200 bus drivers. To address the problem, PGDPS is hosting a virtual bus driver job fair on Wednesday, September 29. Learn more about hiring requirements at <https://www.pgcps.org/offices/humanresources/careers/drive-with-us>.

Virtual Job Fair link (pre-registration required):

docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfziym07c8lQeYauA6n5CBV0j7iFByBTrUkMcTo2zLwLNCORg/viewform

Teens Invited to Join Police Explorers Program

The Prince George's County Police Department is hosting an open house in the Bowie area to promote its Explorers Program for ages 11 to 20. It takes place on October 6, from 5 to 9 p.m. at 12500F Fairwood Parkway. Contact Cpl. Claggett at Diclagett@co.pg.md.us or 240-695-3023 for more information.

The Bowie Police Department also sponsors its own Police Explorers Program, for youth between the ages of 14 and 20. To learn more about that program, visit <https://www.cityofbowie.org/348/Explorers-Post-1916>.

Being a Police Explorer is a great way for teens to learn about how police departments operate, earn service hours, and consider if they might be interested in a career in law enforcement.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Friday, September 24

- [Movies Around the City](#) – “Remember the Titans” | 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 25

- [Weed Warrior Workday](#) | 9 a.m. – noon
- [Free Drive-through Flu Clinic for Ages 3+](#) | 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Sunday, September 26

- [Farmer's Market](#) | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Wednesday, September 29

- [Fairy Tale Fun](#) | 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Saturday, October 2

- [Bowie International Festival](#) | 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Monday, October 4

- [Education Grant Applications Due](#) | 5 p.m.

Tuesday, October 5

- [Coffee with a Cop at Starbucks](#) | 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Friday, October 8

- [Wine and Design at Belair Mansion](#) | 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday, October 9

- [Community Shredding & Styrofoam Recycling](#) | 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- [Purple Bike Ride with the Bowie Police Department](#) | 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

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

COVID Corner



Indoor Mask Mandate Remains in Effect in Prince George's County

Earlier this month, the Prince George's County Council voted to extend the county's emergency orders regarding COVID-19 until October 25. This means that masks must be worn indoors at all retail, restaurant, and business establishments. The exceptions included in the order are listed below:

Exceptions:

- a bona fide disability or medical condition makes wearing a face covering unsafe
- when wearing a face covering would impede communications with those who have a hearing impairment or other disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential to communication
- when wearing a face covering would subject a person to an unsafe working condition, as determined by federal, state, or local occupational safety regulators or workplace safety guidelines

- when wearing a face covering would make it impossible to receive medical or personal services requiring access to the face, mouth, or head, including without limitation, dental or medical care
- while seated at a table at an establishment and consuming food or beverages
- while in the water at a swimming pool
- while at indoor gatherings at private residences
- when alone in an enclosed office that no one else is permitted to enter
- when giving a speech for broadcast or an audience, provided no one is within six feet of the speaker
- when lawfully asked to remove mask for facial recognition purposes.

COVID Symptoms Update

Do you know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19? The Prince George's County Health Department wants you to know that people with COVID-19 have experienced a wide range of symptoms from mild to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2 - 14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms or combinations of symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Fatigue
- Nausea or vomiting
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Muscle or body aches
- Sore throat
- Diarrhea
- Loss of taste or smell
- Headache
- Congestion or runny nose

If you have any of these emergency warning signs, get medical attention immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- Bluish lips or face
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake

This list is not all inclusive. Please consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you. Find a COVID-19 testing site near you at <http://health.mypgc.us/COVIDtesting>.

Vaccination Resources

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

Prince George's County is operating one vaccine clinic and several mobile units. Individuals 12 and older who live or work in Prince George's County are eligible to be vaccinated at these sites. Visit the [county vaccination webpage](#) for details.

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 (as of 9/23/21)	
Total #	542,506
% of Total Population	59.7%
# of Age 12+	542,466
% of Age 12+ Population	70.3%
# of Age 18+	503,832
% of Age 18+ Population	71.2%
# of Age 65+	107,247
% of Age 65 + Population	84.9%