

BOWIE BRIEF

Your Weekly Update
Thursday, June 9, 2022

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

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Bowie News

Free Paper Shredding and Recycling Event

The City of Bowie will host a paper shredding and Styrofoam recycling event at the Public Works Solid Waste/Recycling parking lot located at 16300 Annapolis Road on Saturday, June 11, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Residents can bring up to five tall kitchen bags or five archive boxes for shredding. This event is first come, first served. Three trucks will be dedicated to this event. When all three of the trucks are filled, the event will end, even if it prior to 2 p.m. Documents may be observed while they are being shredded and Styrofoam must be free of any debris (glue or tape).

[Paper Shredding and Styrofoam Recycling Event](#)



Community Meeting to Gather Input on Social Justice Mural for City Gym

The City would also like to get your input on two artist submissions for a new mural installation on the exterior wall of the Bowie City Gym. The Arts Committee selected the theme “social justice and diversity” for the mural. It is taken from a quote by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., “A threat to justice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” The artists submitted their initial concepts and will incorporate community feedback into their final designs.

A community meeting will be held in person at City Hall on Thursday, June 9 at 7 p.m. or you can join [virtually on Microsoft Teams](#). Questions? Contact Lori Cunningham at 301-832-7451 or lcunningham@cityofbowie.org. More information may be found at www.cityofbowie.org/publicart.

Virtual Stakeholders Meeting on Millstream Branch Stream Restoration

The Public Works Department has been implementing a variety of stormwater improvement projects in Bowie, as required by the State of Maryland to improve the quality of Bowie's streams and the Chesapeake Bay. One of these projects, currently in design, is a restoration project for the stream between Belair Town II and Victoria Heights neighborhoods.

This project will include tree removal, stabilization of the stream banks, and the creation of in-stream pools, and native plantings. The public is invited to a virtual Stakeholders Meeting on Thursday, June 9, at 7 p.m. You must [register in advance](#) to receive the meeting link. City staff will provide information on what to expect during construction and will answer questions.

Please plan to register and participate in this important meeting. Please contact Tiffany Wright at 301-809-3043 or by [email](#) with any questions or for accommodations.

Senior Information and Resource Fair: “Aging in America – It’s Okay!”

The Senior Center is hosting an Information and Resources Fair with a focus on empowering older adults to age well on Friday, June 10, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Representatives from organizations and agencies that provide services to seniors will be on hand to share valuable information and to answer questions. Some of the offerings will include screenings for hearing, blood pressure, and dementia. Attendees can also receive a free COVID booster shot. There will be information about health, assisted living, down-sizing, finances, home décor, transportation, and more to help you age well. There will be giveaways and a chance to join in the hula hoop contest. This event is free and open to the public. Come join us!

Walk at Acorn Hill Park

Bring the family outside to enjoy the summer sun with a series of short fun walks on select Fridays. On Friday, June 10 at 6:30 p.m., meet up at Acorn Hill (3209 Stonybrook Drive) for a short walk around the Bowie Community Center and back to the park. Then enjoy a group reading of “Bubbles in Heaven” followed by a discussion about the Memorial Tree and Memorial Bench Programs. After, children can send bubbles skyward to their loved ones. This event is free and bubbles will be provided.

Garden Clean Up Days Around Bowie

Volunteers are needed to help members of the Bowie Green Team as they cleanup their garden at Belair Meadows, a lovely open park area located at the 301 end of Belair Drive as you approach the interchange. The garden is known as a Monarch Waystation because it attracts monarch butterflies and other pollinators. The cleanup will take place on Saturday, June 11 from 1 - 3 p.m.

Volunteers are also needed to help clean up their garden at the Senior Center. This event takes place on Thursday, June 16 from 10 - 11:30 a.m. at Bowie's Senior Center.

Can't make the other 2 clean ups? Fear not! There will be another garden clean up at Centennial Park (15901 Fred Robinson Way) on Saturday, June 25 from 1 – 3 p.m.

At each of these cleanups, learn about what plants are best for these types of gardens, ask questions, interact with the Green Team members, and even take home your very own plant. You do not need to register for these events.

Sunday Sunset Concert: “Back Pages Band” - 60’s music

Enjoy a free Sunday evening concert performance by “Back Pages Band” on Sunday, June 12 at 7 p.m. in front of the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater at Allen Pond Park. Our Sunday Summer concerts are held through Labor Day weekend. Attendance 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](#).

City of Bowie

**SUNDAY
SUNSET
CONCERTS**

*Every Sunday from Memorial Day weekend
to Labor Day weekend!*

www.cityofbowie.org/concerts

**BACK PAGES
BAND**

*60's Music
June 12 | 7 - 8 P.M.
Robert V. Setera Amphitheater
Allen Pond Park*

Juneteenth Events in Bowie

Juneteenth marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all 250,000 enslaved people were freed, a full two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. This year, the City of Bowie celebrates Juneteenth with music, a movie, group workouts, and celebration. Be sure to stop by and celebrate the holiday weekend! *Also please note that Monday, June 20 is a City of Bowie holiday. City offices will be closed and there will be no trash or recycling collection.*

Senior Center Juneteenth Celebration

Friday, June 17, 12 p.m.

Come celebrate Juneteenth at the Senior Center. Listen to great music with baritone singer Bruce Thomas. Bruce can make it smooth and sultry or crank it up full throttle to pop, jazz, Latin, and funk.

Hidden Figures Movie Night

Friday, June 17, at dusk (around 9 p.m.)

The movie “Hidden Figures” will be shown under the stars at Allen Pond Park. The movie honors the contributions of African American women in the field of astrophysics at NASA in the early 1960s. These women, known as “human computers”, were key to winning the space race and launching the first American astronaut into space. Bring food and a blanket or chairs to enjoy the movie. Come early for a game of trivia. The movie begins at dusk.

Juneteenth Jubilee

Saturday, June 18, from 2 - 3:30 p.m.

The Coalition of African Americans in the Performing Arts presents “The Road to Jubilee: A Juneteenth Celebration” at the Robert V. Setera Amphitheater at Allen Pond Park. It is a musical extravaganza with singers, an African drummer, pianist, dancer and narrator that weaves history and hope. Hear poetry from local artists. This event is open to all ages; feel free to bring a blanket, chairs and food. There will be a raffle for giveaways.

Juneteenth Sunrise Walk + Workout

Sunday, June 19, 7 a.m. - 8 a.m.

The Diversity Committee is promoting health and wellness for Juneteenth! Wake up bright and early for a walk and work out at Centennial Park, located next to Bowie City Hall at 15901 Fred Robinson Way. Have fun, get healthy, and bring your water.

Fathers & Families Juneteenth Bike Ride

Sunday, June 19, 9 a.m.

The City of Bowie Police Department invites fathers and families to celebrate Father’s Day with a morning bike ride, 9:30 a.m. at Allen Pond Park. There is a 20-mile option, or a 45-mile option, both for experienced riders. The bike ride begins and ends at Allen Pond Park. Pre-registration is required. This event is co-sponsored by the Prince George’s County Commission on Fathers, Men, and Boys and by *My Brother’s Keeper*, a local nonprofit organization that creates pathways to success for boys and young men of color.

Fathers & Families Juneteenth Celebration

Sunday, June 19, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

After the bike ride, stick around Allen Pond Park for a joint Juneteenth and Father's Day celebration starting at noon. There will be food, vendors, entertainment, games, music, and a tribute to dads.

Juneteenth Concert

Sunday, June 19, 7 p.m.

Finally, enjoy the reggae sounds of "Proverbs Band" from 7 - 8 p.m. at Allen Pond Park.

Juneteenth Holiday

City offices are closed on Monday, June 20 for the Juneteenth holiday. There is no trash or recycling service on this date; service will resume on the next regularly scheduled day.

Learn more at www.cityofbowie.org/juneteenth



The poster features the word "juneteenth" in a colorful, cursive font at the top, with "CELEBRATE FREEDOM" in a smaller, sans-serif font below it. The events are organized by day: Friday, June 17; Saturday, June 18; and Sunday, June 19. Each day lists specific activities, times, and locations. A note at the bottom states that city offices are closed on Monday, June 20, and that trash and recycling collection will be on the next scheduled day.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

- SENIOR PROGRAM:
JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION
12 p.m. at The Senior Center
- "HIDDEN FIGURES" MOVIE NIGHT
8:30 p.m. at Allen Pond Park

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

- JUNETEENTH JUBILEE
2 p.m. at Allen Pond Park

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

- JUNETEENTH SUNRISE WALK & WORKOUT
7 a.m. at Centennial Park
- FATHERS AND FAMILY BIKE RIDE
9 a.m. at Allen Pond Park
- FATHERS AND FAMILY
JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION
12 p.m. at Allen Pond Park
- SUNDAY SUNSET CONCERT:
"PROVERBS REGGAE BAND"
7 p.m. at Allen Pond Park

**CITY OFFICES ARE CLOSED ON MONDAY JUNE 20 IN OBSERVANCE OF JUNETEENTH.
TRASH AND RECYCLING ARE COLLECTED ON THE NEXT SCHEDULED DAY.**

Police Community Survey

The Bowie Police Department invites you to complete its [community survey](#), which seeks to gauge the efficiency and effectiveness of the Bowie Police Department in serving those who live, work, and play in the City of Bowie. [Survey link](#)

Bowie Wins Maryland Green Registry Sustainability Leadership Circle Award

The City of Bowie has been making great strides to reduce the environmental footprint we leave as a community. As a result of the city's sustainable practices, we are excited to announce that we have won a Maryland Green Registry Sustainability Leadership Award. This is the second time that Bowie has been recognized in this fashion. The first award was in 2018. This distinction puts us in the Maryland Sustainability Leadership Circle.

The Maryland Green Registry Sustainability Leadership Awards recognize organizations that have shown a strong commitment to the implementation of sustainable practices, the demonstration of measurable results and the continual improvement of environmental performance. The City provides backyard compost bins, a food waste pickup program, has electric vehicles (EVs) in its fleet and promotes EV charging infrastructure through partnerships at City Hall and Kenhill Center, and has entered into a power purchase agreement for a 2.5-megawatt solar array on city property. Together, these green programs and purchases make city operations significantly cleaner and greener than ever before.

The Maryland Green Registry is a voluntary program that promotes and recognizes environmentally sustainable practices in organizations of all types and sizes across the state. Visit www.green.maryland.gov for tips and resources. For more information on all things sustainability in Bowie please visit our Green Bowie page at www.cityofbowie.org/GreenBowie or contact Ashleigh Diaz, Sustainability Planner at adiaz@cityofbowie.org.

We Need Your Comments on Draft for Economic Development Strategy

Did you know that Bowie has a new plan for Economic Development? It is still in draft form and will be reviewed by Council at its meeting on June 21. There are 4 areas of focus, each with action items. We invite you to visit our [Economic Development Strategy page](#) on the website to:

- Read a one-page summary
- Peruse a slide presentation about the plan
- Or, read the plan in its entirety

Whichever way you choose to learn about it, we're interested in your feedback. Email comments to jhking@cityofbowie.org, call 301-809-3042, or offer your input in person at the June 21 Council Meeting.

[Economic Strategy Input Wanted](#)

WE NEED YOUR INPUT

on the new economic strategy!

Read the action plan summary at
www.cityofbowie.org/ed_draftplan.

Then, share your input:

- Email Jhking@cityofbowie.org
- Call 301-809-3042
- Offer in-person comments at June 21 Council meeting



Plots Available in New Community Garden at the Kenhill Center

Have a green thumb but no green space? Rent a plot at the Community Garden at 2614 Kenhill Drive. Teach your children and grandchildren the value of growing your own food. Twelve 8x8 plots are available to Bowie residents. Apply now and soon you'll be growing your own food.

www.cityofbowie.org/communitygarden

2022 Bowie Restaurant Reimbursement Grant

The Bowie Restaurant Reimbursement Grant is a grant program created by the City Council to assist small restaurant businesses with establishing and operating outdoor dining. Businesses with a physical establishment within the City of Bowie may be eligible to receive a one-time reimbursement of up to \$2,500. Purchases must be made between April 1, 2022, and November 15, 2022. Grants are limited to one award per business entity. Visit the program webpage at www.cityofbowie.org/restaurantgrant to read the eligibility criteria and to download the grant application.

Applications will be accepted on a first come, first served basis until Thursday, June 16 at 2 p.m. The application period may close sooner if all of the available grant money has been committed. Questions? Contact the Economic Development Office by email at jhking@cityofbowie.org for additional information.

Virtual Stakeholders Meeting - Melford Pod 6 on June 9

St. John Properties, Inc, developer of Melford, has filed an application to revise the approved Detailed Site Plan for Pod 6 for the purpose of building 59,640 square feet of research and development/flex space rather than another office building within the project. The flex space is permitted under current approvals for the project.

There will be a virtual stakeholders meeting on the application on June 9 at 7 p.m. To attend the virtual meeting, you must [register here](#). You will receive a confirmation email with the Zoom link for the meeting. Participation will be in “listen only” mode, and questions may be sent via the Zoom Q&A function.

Two public hearings will also be held on this change: a Bowie Advisory Planning Board hearing on June 28 at 7 p.m. and a City Council hearing on July 5 at 8 p.m.

Water Bill Assistance Program

City of Bowie water customers who are in arrears on their water bill accounts may be eligible for grants of \$100 - \$2,000 from the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) offered by the State of Maryland. Eligibility is determined by household income and/or participation in various state aid programs. For complete details and how to apply, please visit www.cityofbowie.org/waterassistance.

PLEASE NOTE: Bowie residents on WSSC water can obtain help with their water bills by going to www.wsscwater.com/assistance.

Beautification Awards

The City of Bowie, in cooperation with Soroptimist International of Bowie-Crofton, is seeking nominees for the 26th annual Beautification Awards Program. Nominate a garden or yard in your neighborhood.

Categories include:

- Distinguished whole yard landscaping/gardening
- Distinguished front, back, or side yard landscaping/gardening
- Distinguished specialty garden (i.e. patio garden, Japanese, butterfly, etc.)
- Distinguished wildlife habitat
- Distinguished business landscaping/garden
- Distinguished school (public or private) landscaping/garden

Nominations are due by June 24. To nominate a home or business in your neighborhood, visit www.cityofbowie.org/beautification.

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 June 17

- [Water Plant Superintendent](#) – Public Works
- [Temporary Laborer](#) – Parks and Grounds and Storm Water Management
- [Part-time Building Maintenance Worker](#) – Community Services

Closing June 23

- [Laborer](#) – Parks and Grounds

Closing June 24

- [Part-time Gymnasium Attendant](#) – Community Services

Open until filled

- [Entry Level Police Officer](#) – Police Department
- [Communications Specialist II](#) – Police Department
- [Network Administrator](#) – Information Technology
- [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, June 9

- [Community Meeting to Gather Input on Social Justice Mural for City Gym](#) | 7 p.m.
- [Virtual Stakeholders Meetings – Millstream Branch Stream Restoration](#) | 7 p.m.

Friday, June 10

- [Senior Information & Resource Fair](#) | 10 a.m.
- [Kid’s Kaboose at Bowie Railroad Museum](#) | 10:30 a.m.
- [Friday Family Fun Walk at Acorn Hill Park](#) | 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 11

- [Paper Shredding & Styrofoam Recycling Event](#) | 8 a.m.
- [Garden Clean Up at Belair Meadows](#) | 1 p.m.

Sunday, June 12

- [Bowie Farmer’s Market](#) | 8 a.m.
- [Sunday Sunset Concert: “Back Pages Band”](#) | 7 p.m.

Monday, June 13

- [Virtual Stakeholders Meeting – Melford Pod 6](#) | 7 p.m.

Wednesday, June 15

- [Senior Program: Nature Presentation](#) | 10 a.m.

Thursday, June 16

- [Senior Center Garden Clean Up](#) | 10 a.m.
- [Deadline for Bowie Restaurant Reimbursement Grant](#) | 2 p.m.

Friday, June 17

- [Senior Program: Juneteenth Celebration](#) | 12 p.m.
- [Wine & Design at Belair Mansion: Cake Decorating 101](#) | 7 p.m.
- [Juneteenth Celebration: “Hidden Figures” Movie Night](#) | 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 18

- [Yoga on the Green at Belair Mansion](#) | 11 a.m.
- [Juneteenth Jubilee](#) | 2 p.m.

Sunday, June 19

- [Juneteenth Sunrise Walk & Workout](#) | 7 a.m.
- [Bowie Farmer’s Market](#) | 8 a.m.
- [Fathers and Family Bike Ride Juneteenth Celebration](#) | 9 a.m.
- [Sunday Sunset Concert: “Proverbs Reggae Band”](#) | 7 p.m.

Mondy, June 20

- [Juneteenth Holiday - City offices closed](#)

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

COVID CORNER



COVID Testing

The US government is distributing a third round of COVID tests. Compared to previous rounds, you'll be sent double the number of tests — eight instead of four – and they'll be shipped in two separate packages. 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 a COVID test site.

For updates on COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, including a complete list of clinics in the County, visit health.mypgc.us/Coronavirus

Omicron Variant is Driving Up Cases

Prince George's County is currently at the MEDIUM level for COVID cases, spurred in large part by the omicron variant which has spread across the U.S. A few local counties - Anne Arundel, Baltimore, and Howard Counties - are at the HIGH level.

The Prince George's County Health Department continues to recommend that residents voluntarily mask up when indoors in public places to prevent further spread. If you have not yet been vaccinated, the Health Department highly recommends getting your shots ASAP. Also, please get tested if you feel sick or have been exposed to COVID.

City of Bowie Walk-up COVID Test Giveaway Program has ended

The City of Bowie's COVID test kit distribution program at the Kenhill Center has ended. All of the test kits the city received have now been distributed. All US households are eligible to order test kits through the Postal Service. There have been three rounds of distribution. Make sure to order your kits at www.covid.gov/tests.

COVID Data

Covid-19 Data (as of 6/9/22)			
	Maryland	Prince George's County	Bowie
Cases	1,105,840 (+1,756)	182,956 (+282)	Cases: 17,475 (+32)
Deaths	14,660 (+6)	2,180 (+0)	
Positivity Rate	8.92%	10.01%	
Case Rate Per 100K	29.36	30.98	20715: 3,809 (+3)
Maryland Hospitalizations			20716: 3,760 (+3)
Adult	Total: 465 (-1.8%)	ICU: 64 (-5.8%)	20720: 4,437 (+14)
Pediatric	Total: 11 (-10%)	ICU: 1 (+0%)	20721: 5,469 (+12)
<i>Figures above in parentheses represent a one-day increase since 6/8/22.</i>			
Vaccine Progress - At Least One Dose			
	Maryland	Prince George's County	
CDC 18+	95%	95%	
CDC 5+	92.6%	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.

Prince George's County Fully Vaccinated Residents (per CDC) as of 6/9/22	
Total #	687,707
% of Total Population	75.6%
# of Age 5+	687,669
% of Age 5+ Population	80.9%
# of Age 12+	656,886
% of Age 12+ Population	85.1%
# of Age 18+	602,567
% of Age 18+ Population	85.1%
# of Age 65+	120,707
% of Age 65 + Population	95%