



Public Health
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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MARCH 18, 2016

2016 COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH **KNOW THE FACTS – GET SCREENED**

FREDERICK, MD -- Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for men and women in the U.S., in Maryland and in Frederick County. In 2016 the American Cancer Society projects approximately 134,490 new cases and 49,190 deaths will have occurred in the United States. In the same year, approximately 2,390 new cases and 850 deaths are estimated to have occurred in Maryland. According to the 2014 Cancer Report, in Frederick County there were 95 new colorectal cancer cases and 42 colorectal cancer deaths. Compared to whites, African-Americans are more likely to develop and die from colorectal cancer.

The Frederick County Health Department Cancer Prevention Program, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and community partners are educating Maryland residents about colorectal cancer and urging doctors and other health care providers to recommend colorectal screening for their eligible patients.



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One method of screening is colonoscopy. During colonoscopy, the doctor can remove polyps in the large intestine, also called adenomas, before they can turn into cancer.

The American Cancer Society recommends screening for people beginning at age 50 years. People with a personal or family history of colorectal cancer or adenomatous polyps, individuals with history of inflammatory bowel disease (ulcerative colitis or Crohn’s disease) and women with cancer of the ovary or endometrium need to start screening before they are 50. For more information about colorectal cancer and the availability of FREE colorectal cancer screening for qualifying individuals, please contact the Frederick County Health Department at 301-600-3362 or [visit us online](#). You may also call the 24-hour line of the American Cancer Society’s Cancer Information Specialist at 1-800-ACS-2345 (1-800-227-2345).

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