



**Public Health**  
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Frederick County Health Department

# FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND JOINT INFORMATION CENTER COVID-19



## News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### Frederick County Agency Updates for May 14, 2020

Frederick, MD – May 14, 2020

**County Executive:** Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner today announced plans to phase in the opening of businesses and activities in Frederick County, as the COVID-19 coronavirus continues to create a public health emergency. As of 5 p.m. Friday, May 15, the following will be permitted:

- Curbside pickup at all retail establishments of any size.
- Manufacturing.
- Reopening of small retail businesses (less than 10,000 square feet of space). Under State orders, these stores may only open up to 50% of their capacity, and must follow other guidelines provided by the State and County.
- Reopening of animal adoption facilities, car washes, and pet grooming facilities.

All businesses and activities must continue to follow statewide safety guidelines. Face coverings are required to be worn by customers and staff inside any business or public space. Physical distancing must be observed. Handling of cash must be limited. No gathering may exceed 10 people.

After two weeks, if there is no increase in the utilization of hospital beds or intensive care unit beds in the county, and we do not see an influx of patients from nursing home as test results are known, additional businesses will be permitted to reopen. This includes barbershops and salons, which will be required to set aside morning hours for seniors and other vulnerable residents before opening to other customers. Houses of worship will be allowed to hold services if they enforce physical distancing; require face coverings; and limit attendance to 50% of capacity, with a cap of 250 people.

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“I recognize that this has been an exceedingly difficult time for everyone, especially for people who are elderly and vulnerable to COVID, and for our small businesses, which are the heart of our economy and our community,” said Executive Gardner. “We must balance their needs with the public health needs of all our citizens. We all need to do our part to keep Frederick County safe so we can fully reopen our community.”

County government services will continue unchanged from their current status.

An executive order outlining these directives can be found on the County’s website at [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/Executive-Orders](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/Executive-Orders) and the most recent order is available here: <https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/11625>.

### **Health Department:**

The Health Department is now reporting that 1392 residents have tested positive for COVID-19, 87 people have died, and 672 people have been released from isolation. For more information, please visit [health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus](http://health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus).

One of our Frequently Asked Questions: *When I look at the state’s website about COVID-19 in nursing homes, I don’t see X facility listed. Does that mean that the health department isn’t following them or they aren’t reporting to you?*

Answer: The facilities listed on the Maryland Department of Health [website](#) only includes active outbreaks (which is defined as one case in these types of facilities). If the facility you’re looking for isn’t included on that list, that means that there is no current outbreak in that facility. (Please note that the website is updated once a week on Wednesdays around 10am). We have health department nurses assigned to all long term care facilities in the county, providing them with guidance and support. We are in daily contact with all nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Frederick County.

### **For more information:**

Frederick County residents can call 866-411-6803 to reach our local 211 center with general questions about coronavirus or COVID19. Accurate COVID-19 information is critical to the community. For the most current and accurate information about this situation, please refer to the following:

- City of Frederick: [//cityoffrederickmd.gov/covid19](http://cityoffrederickmd.gov/covid19)
- Frederick County Government: [www.frederickcountymd.gov/Coronavirus](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/Coronavirus)
- Frederick County Health Department: [health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus](http://health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus)
- Maryland Department of Health (MDH): [coronavirus.maryland.gov](http://coronavirus.maryland.gov)
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC): [coronavirus.gov](http://coronavirus.gov)

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