



**Public Health**  
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Frederick County Health Department

# FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND JOINT INFORMATION CENTER COVID-19



## News Release

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301-600-7662 • TTY Use Maryland Relay

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 30, 2020

### Frederick County Announces Keyword Opt-in for COVID-19 Updates

*Text FredCoVID19 to 888777*

**Frederick, MD** – Frederick County Government is making it easier to stay up to date during the COVID-19 health emergency. The Frederick County Division of Emergency Management announces that beginning today, anyone interested can text the keyword **FredCoVID19** to 888777 and receive updates from the County government on operational changes, press conferences and more. Message and data rates may apply.

Alert Frederick County is the County's free, official source for information about emergency events. The text opt-in service is just one of many ways people can stay informed with Alert Frederick County. To learn more about the Alert Frederick County program or to sign up, visit [FrederickCountyMD.gov/Alert](http://FrederickCountyMD.gov/Alert).

#### Agency Updates:

##### Senior Services Division:

Frederick County Meals on Wheels continues to serve approximately 200 clients, providing two meals each day, Monday thru Friday. **There has been no disruption in service.** Additionally over 200 boxes of 6-day shelf-stable meal packs were delivered to all Meals on Wheels clients for emergency use. The Division is also working with the Maryland Food Bank to assist with targeted food drops.

Frederick County Senior Services 50+ Community Centers have canceled all scheduled classes, activities, and events for the Spring Quarter. Center supervisors will begin processing refunds for all pre-paid classes and events for the period of April 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. People who are due a refund can expect to receive a check from Frederick County Government for the full amount of their registration fees. Please note, due to limited staffing, refunds may take up to 30 days to process. In the event 50+ Community Centers reopen at any time during the spring quarter, fitness classes, activities, and other events will resume as pay as you go/drop-in sessions for that quarter.

-more-

Frederick County Joint Information Center COVID-19

[www.frederickcountymd.gov/JIC](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/JIC)



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Although Senior Services Division is not accepting visitors at their office or at Senior Centers, the Division remains active and engaged with clients through phone and email. Senior Services also offers a Virtual 50+ Community Center at [www.frederickcountymd.gov/SeniorServices](http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/SeniorServices) with links to accessing the public library for downloadable materials, virtual tours from all over the world, live webcams from zoos, aquariums and national parks, fitness videos, TED Talks as well as crafts, games and puzzles. Seniors may also contact Maryland Access Point at 301-600-1234 for resource options, needs assessment and referrals.

## **Workforce Services:**

Frederick County Workforce Services announces a new Online Resources page on their website, [www.FrederickWORKS.com/online-resources](http://www.FrederickWORKS.com/online-resources). This page is of particular help to those who have recently lost a job or are continuing to look for work within an entirely different and rapidly changing job market. The Online Resources page includes access to the latest Unemployment Insurance information, current job openings, job search workshop presentation materials, career planning resources and more. Video tutorials are expected to be added this week and live workshops are expected in the weeks ahead.

Frederick County businesses can also access important information and resources on the Workforce Services website, [www.frederickWORKS.com/employers](http://www.frederickWORKS.com/employers). This page includes information about local, state and federal resources as they become available, such as lay-off aversion programs, grant opportunities and details about the stimulus package. Support is also available to businesses that are closing or experiencing reductions in staffing, to help make the process as smooth as possible. In addition, Workforce Services is continuing to support local businesses and industries that are still hiring at this time.

## **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:

- 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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