



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Frederick County Health Department

FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND JOINT INFORMATION CENTER COVID-19



News Release

Media Contact: Rissah Watkins
Frederick County Health Department
JIC@FrederickCountyMD.Gov
301-600-7662 • TTY Use Maryland Relay

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

COVID-19 Joint Information Center Update

Frederick, MD – April 8, 2020

Health Department:

The Health Department is now reporting 160 reported confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 and 4 deaths. We are receiving more cases daily and our staff are talking with each person to confirm important information as part of the case investigation process. At this time, we have 39 additional cases we are currently investigating. For more information, please visit health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus.

Animal Control:

In an effort to reduce the potential spread of COVID-19, the Frederick County Division of Animal Control has modified our response to calls for service and operating hours for field services. Beginning Saturday, April 4, 2020 Animal Control Officers will only provide a physical response to priority calls between 7:00 am and 8:00 pm daily. All other non-priority calls for service will receive a response by phone or email. From 8:00 pm to 7:00 am, an Animal Control Officer will be available to assist with animal related emergencies only. Due to the current crisis, we are striving to provide appropriate animal care and customer service in balance with public safety and human health. We ask for your patience and understanding until normal operations have been resumed. Animal Control staff continues to provide excellent care to the animals currently housed out the shelter.

As residents spend more time at home, please remember to be considerate of your neighbors and supervise your pets. An increase in complaints of nuisance barking is occurring. We suspect neighbors who are normally at work during the day are being disturbed by dogs who typically spend time outdoors enjoying spring weather.

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Frederick County Joint Information Center COVID-19
www.frederickcountymd.gov/JIC



Page 2/JIC

Springtime is also the season for newborn wildlife. Remember to observe and enjoy from a distance. Never attempt to touch or capture a newborn wild animal. Assistance with wildlife can be found on the Maryland Department of Natural Resources webpage. Click on the WILDLIFE tab, then click on WILDLIFE PROBLEMS? or visit https://dnt.maryland.gov/Wildlife/Page/plants_wildlife/wildlifeproblems.

Thank you for your continued support. Animal Control Officers are on duty 7 days a week from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm for information and assistance at (301) 600-1544. For an animal related emergency, phone (301) 600-1603 or 911 at any time.

Frederick County Public Libraries:

Frederick County Public Libraries (FCPL) has seen an exponential growth in their online traffic as families stay home and search for activities and resources to engage young and old. Their virtual daily storytimes and read alongs which happen Monday through Friday at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. have been viewed over 200,000 times. Digital resources such as ebooks, audiobooks, tv shows, and movies have also seen a 141% increase in use. FCPL is offering temporary online cards for anyone who does not have a library card, these cards are offered free of charge and can be found on their updated website at fcpl.org.

TransIT:

Beginning on Thursday, April 9th, TransIT Services of Frederick County is requiring all TransIT passengers to wear a mask or facial covering in order to board a TransIT vehicle to further prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Frederick County. A mask or facial covering can include one of the following; a surgical mask, a homemade mask, scarf, or piece of clothing used to cover one's mouth and nose. Passengers failing to comply will be denied TransIT service.

Please remember to only use TransIT for ESSENTIAL TRAVEL ONLY. Essential travel means taking trips to work, hospitals, health care/pharmacies, grocery stores/food, banks, to provide care for family members, and other similar destinations. By reducing unnecessary travel, TransIT becomes safer for those who depend on it, especially essential healthcare workers, and for those who operate it. While on board TransIT vehicles, please comply with the CDC's social distancing recommendation of no fewer than six feet of separation.

For more information on TransIT's plan in response to COVID-19 and TransIT's services available in Frederick County, please visit our website at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/transit or call 301-600-2065.

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Page 3/JIC

Department of Solid Waste Management

The Frederick County Department of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) is offering a distance learning opportunity during the current school closures– an activity that’s fun, educational, and, might just win students a prize!

The “Recycle Right!” Student Learning Contest is open to all local K-12 students now through May 8, 2020. Participants are asked to learn more about the recycling process, then use their new knowledge and their creativity to help others learn too. Students can enter by submitting written essays, artwork or puzzle designs.

To assist students in gaining accurate knowledge of how recycling really works, the DSWM has provided links to recommended student-friendly resources (websites, games, videos and fact sheets) on their online contest page. For complete contest information and entry forms, visit:

www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/RecycleContest.

The first 25 entrants will receive a special thank-you in the mail! Entries may also be selected for to be featured in print and online publications.

If 100 entries are received, the DSWM will award \$900 in prizes...so please help spread the word about this great at-home activity!

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
- Frederick County Health Department: health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus
- Maryland Department of Health (MDH): coronavirus.maryland.gov
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC): coronavirus.gov

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