



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 6, 2020

Frederick, MD – May 6, 2020

Highlights from Governor Hogan's Press Conference:

- Maryland Department of Health will be issuing guidelines to allow elective medical procedure to resume at the discretion of local hospitals and healthcare providers.
- Additional lower risk outdoor activities are resuming tomorrow at 7am to include golf, tennis, boating, fishing, and camping. It remains critical to follow physical distancing guidelines.
- Maryland Public Schools will continue with distance learning for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

Watch Governor Hogan's Press Conference [here](#)

Health Department:

The Health Department is now reporting 1150 positive cases of COVID-19 and 70 deaths. For more information, please visit health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus.

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



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Frederick County Public Schools:

Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer Program

The Frederick County Public Schools meals-to-go service does not require anyone to fill out a Free and Reduced-Price Meals (FARM) benefits application. However, qualifying for the school system's meal benefits is one measure that families may use to also qualify to receive funds for children's meals through the recently approved Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) Program.

The Maryland State Department of Education and the Department of Human Services secured federal approval on a joint submission to operate the P-EBT program to help feed the nearly 427,000 vulnerable children in Maryland with over \$49 million in estimated benefits. Benefits may be retroactive to the start of Maryland schools' closure March 16. Monthly benefits are calculated at the daily rate of \$5.70 per child for each day the child's school was closed in a particular month.

FCPS encourages families who have not filled out a free and reduced-price meals benefit application or who did not previously qualify for free or reduced-price meals to complete the application now if their situation has changed due to decreased wages, unemployment or increased family size. FCPS will continue to accept and process 2019-2020 meal benefits applications through June 30, 2020. Only one application is required per household even if the children attend different schools; families are reminded to include all family members on the application. Families may apply online at <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application>, or they may use a paper version printed in English or Spanish from www.fcpsnutrition.com. Paper applications will need to be returned to FCPS Food and Nutrition Services, 33 Thomas Johnson Drive, Frederick, MD 21702.

For answers to questions regarding the Free and Reduced-Price Meal benefits application, please call 301-644-5061. FCPS has no further information about the P-EBT Program; to learn more about that program, please contact the Maryland Department of Human Services and see their news release: <http://news.dhr.maryland.gov/reports/that/usda-approval-maryland-provide-food-approximately-427000-children-affected-covid-19-school-closures/>.

Office of Economic Development:

Now more than ever it is important to support our local farms. Farmers across Frederick County are continuing to work to ensure you have a safe healthy food supply available whether you are shopping at a grocery store or at a farm market. In need of meat, produce, plants, dairy products or more?

[Homegrown Frederick](http://www.homegrownfrederick.com/blog/farms-open-for-sales) maintains a listing of local farms open for sales and their available products at <http://www.homegrownfrederick.com/blog/farms-open-for-sales>. Before visiting any of the farms listed, please be sure to visit their website or Facebook page for the most up to date information on their hours and availability.

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Division of Utilities and Solid Waste Management:

County Creates Mask Decontamination Unit for Frederick Health Hospital

Innovative System Uses Water Treatment Plant's UV Technology

Facing a potential shortage of N95 masks for healthcare workers, first responders and others, some innovative Frederick County Government employees stepped into action. They knew the County's treatment plants made water safe from viruses, and they wondered if masks could be made safe using the same technology. So a group from the Division of Utilities and Solid Waste Management set to work designing a prototype ultraviolet decontamination unit.

Most of the major components were readily available. UV bulbs, ballasts and sockets are used in disinfection units at several of the county's treatments plants. The County also had the tools needed to test the effectiveness of the unit by measuring the intensity of the UV light. In just three weeks' time, they went from proof-of-concept to a fully operational decontamination unit. This week the prototype was delivered to Frederick Health Hospital.



Please see the full news release at <https://www.frederickcountymd.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=4577> for more information.

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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