

COVID-19 Update

Talbot County Emergency Services
Clay Stamp, Director, Asst. County Manager
www.talbotdes.org



Talbot County Health Department
Dr. Fredia Wadley, Health Officer
<https://health.maryland.gov/talbotcounty>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 18, 2020

Talbot County Responds to COVID-19 Crisis

The Talbot County Health Department and the Talbot County Department of Emergency Services continue to work with area partners to meet the needs to residents and businesses during the COVID-19 health crisis. Council President Corey Pack today reiterated the importance of following all recommendations to remain safe, saying “It is important remain vigilant and to follow all recommendations to protect ourselves from this emerging coronavirus, COVID-19.”

Clay Stamp, Director of Emergency Services and Assistant County Manager stated, “We will continue working closely with our government agencies, our nonprofit organizations and the business community to address developing issues to ensure public safety.”

Following is a summary of measures Talbot County’s community partners are taking in response to this developing situation.

Easton Utilities

Easton Utilities understands the importance of supporting our community efforts during this unprecedented time. While we continue to provide the essential services our customers rely on every day, we want to follow the recommendations of our state and local agencies to protect the health of the public and our employees.

In addition to the recommended precautions we are currently following, Easton Utilities is instituting the following changes as of Monday, March 16:

- The Customer Service Center and Lobby are CLOSED to all customers and visitors.
 - The drive-thru will remain open.
- Customers are encouraged to utilize online bill pay, phone or mail for transactions.
- We are limiting visits to customer homes and have implemented a screening protocol to determine the potential health risk of the residence.
- As always, we remain flexible and willing to work with customers facing financial hardships during this time.

COVID-19 Update

We will continuously monitor and update our policies to ensure we are providing the best possible service to our customers. Thank you for your patience and flexibility during this time. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Customer Service at 410-822-6110.

St. Michaels Community Center

Food support update:

- SMCC is offering delivery service with our Blue bus on Tuesdays and Thursdays from all food pantry locations in the Bay Hundred Area during this crisis. We just need to schedule a pick-up time and collect a list of individuals with addresses who need grocery deliveries. Call [410-745-6073](tel:410-745-6073) or email Trish@stmichaelscc.org.
- We also are providing take-out meals and grocery pick-up from the Center to those in need as follows:
Monday, take-out meals and grocery bag pick-up [from 5-7 p.m.](#)
Wednesday, take-out meals and grocery bag pick-up [from 3-5 p.m.](#)
Friday, take-out meals and grocery bag pick-up [from 11-3 pm.](#)
- Those who want to help may drop off non-perishables or financial donations at the St. Michaels Community Center, the St. Michaels Police Dept., Firehouses, YMCA and Area churches.

Talbot County Free Library

- On Thursday, March 19 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Easton Library, the library will have free books available for all ages while supplies last.
- Books will be located on tables in front of the library. No donations are needed right now. Please come and pick up a book for you or a family member's reading pleasure.
- Patrons are also encouraged to try the library's eLearning opportunities and downloadable and streaming eBooks, audiobooks, music, magazines and movies.
- Start a course on Gale Courses which offers a wide range of highly interactive, instructor led courses that you can take entirely online. For more information, about any of these eResources visit www.tcfl.org.

Talbot County Government

Procedures for Planning & Zoning Application Drop Off

- Application packets must be complete and accurate.
- Please include both a phone number & an e-mail address on your application.
- Please put complete packets in a bag, folder, or envelope.
- Deposit the application packet in the box provided outside the Department of Planning and Zoning.
- Your packet will be collected daily and processed.
- You will be contacted if there are any questions or issues.

COVID-19 Update

- Please provide accurate contact information. You will be contacted regarding fees and methods of payment associated with your application.
- Please indicate if associated information is to be distributed to Permits & Inspections, Environmental Health Department, or Public Works. We will distribute this information internally for you.
- Once the County Government offices are open to the public, we will provide notice of public meeting/hearing dates, such as Planning Commission, Board of Appeals and Technical Advisory Committee meetings.
- You may contact Staff directly by telephone or email to assist with any questions or concerns. In addition, you may call our main line at 410-770-8030.

Procedures for Permit Application Drop Off

- Application packets must be complete and accurate.
- Please include both a phone number & an e-mail address on your application.
- Please put complete packets in a plastic bag, folder, or envelope.
- Deposit the application packet in the box provided outside the Permits & Inspection Office.
- Your packet will be collected daily and processed.
- You will be contacted if there are any questions or issues.
- Please provide accurate contact information. You will be contacted regarding fees and acceptable methods of payment associated with your application.
- Please provide an extra copy of building plans and site plans for the Environmental Health Department. We will distribute these for you, along with a copy of your application.
- Please provide a copy of roof details and site plans for the Storm Water Management, if needed. We will distribute these for you, along with a copy of your application.

Contact Staff directly by telephone or e-mail with any questions or concerns. In addition you may call our main line at 410-770-6840.

Talbot County Public Schools

UPDATED Meal Distribution Information:

Beginning Thursday 3/19/2020 FREE meals will be distributed for children ages 2 through 18 at the following expanded list of locations: **Easton Middle, Easton Elementary-Dobson, the corner of Dover and Aurora Streets in Easton, the Neighborhood Service Center, St. Michaels Middle High, St. Michaels Police Dept., Chapel District Elementary, White Marsh Elementary, and Tilghman Elementary.** This will include breakfast, lunch, dinner and a snack. These are drive-by/pick-up sites outdoors.

- Drive-by or walk-up meal pickup will be at all locations from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM Monday through Friday.
- No names need to be provided.
- CHILDREN MUST BE PRESENT and must be between the ages of 2 and 18. Adults cannot accept meals on behalf of children.
- Children do not have to be eligible for free and reduced-price meals.

COVID-19 Update

- CarePacks will be delivered to all sites on Fridays to provide weekend meals (while supplies last).
- If families are unable to get to one of the sites due to an **emergency** situation (lack of transportation, work schedule conflict, illness in family, etc.) to pick up meals or CarePacks, please use this link to sign up for meal delivery: <https://tcpsforms.org/TCPS/view.php?id=439535> (Please note we cannot guarantee that delivery will be available). You may also email Ms. Emily Moody at emoody@talbotschools.org to set up a CarePacks delivery on Fridays.

Town of Easton

Operations and services will continue to be provided. Please contact us using online, phone and mail options. 410-822-2525 | www.town-eastonmd.gov

The Town of Easton understands the importance of supporting our community efforts during this unprecedented time. We are closely monitoring recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization regarding the spread of the virus. Safety is one of the core values and *our focus is to ensure we continue to meet customer needs while keeping you, our employees, and our communities safe*. Below is a breakdown of the steps we are taking:

Effective Monday, March 16, the Town of Easton offices will be **CLOSING** public access to buildings. The Town office will remain open and the use of online, mail and phone options are always available.

- Town Council meetings will be closed to public access until further notice. The meeting is televised for live viewing on MCTV Channel 98 local access.
- Public comments can be submitted to the Town, until the close of business on Friday.
- Operations and services will continue to be provided; including building permit issuance and certain inspections.
- Telephone payment options are available at 410-822-2525.
- Parks and Recreational activities have been canceled, with the cooperation of each organization.
- Certain Public Assembly and Park Permits may be altered or canceled to comply with size of gatherings limits.

We appreciate your patience and thank everyone involved with the emergency response and treatment of COVID-19 for the safety of all.

Talbot County Social Services

Currently providing all services through the following means:

- To support social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic, residents are strongly encouraged to call us at 410-770-4848 with questions instead of coming to the office. Child support customers should call the DHS Call Center at 1-800-332-6347.
- DHS online portal (MyDHR) should be used when possible to apply for SNAP (Food Stamps) and all emergency cash assistance programs (<https://mydhrbenefits.dhr.state.md.us/>)

COVID-19 Update

- Applications can also be submitted by mail (301 Bay St., Unit 5, Easton, MD 21601), by email (talbot.customer@maryland.gov), or by fax (410-770-7117)
- Medical Assistance or health insurance applications can be submitted on the Maryland Health Connection. The Maryland Health Connection has opened an emergency enrollment period. Information and online application access can be found on the Maryland Health Connection website (<https://www.marylandhealthconnection.gov/>).
- Long Term Care Medical Assistance applications can be submitted at <https://mymdthink.maryland.gov/home/#/home>
- Child Support information and/or questions can also be submitted by email at talbot.customer@maryland.gov
- Child support payments can be made by mail, phone or online. If making payment by mail, include your name and child support case number on the payment and mail to:

Maryland Child Support Account

PO Box 17396

Baltimore, MD 21297-1396

To make a one-time credit card child support payment over the phone, call 1-844-324-3855.

Child Support payments may be made online at <http://dhs.maryland.gov/child-support-services/paying-support/>. At this link, you can establish a one-time or recurring automatic draft from your savings account or pay using Visa, Mastercard, Discover or American Express.

- Reports of suspected child or vulnerable adult abuse or neglect should continue to be reported to 410-770-4848.

Talbot County Department of Corrections

The Department of Corrections has implemented the following:

1. Suspended all Inmate Programs.
2. Suspended all Inmate Visiting.
3. All Court Appearances completed by Video.
4. Temperature Checks required for **all** persons entering the facility. (staff, new inmates, law enforcement)
5. Suspended all Volunteer Services.
6. Attorney access to clients via telephone conferencing.

University of Maryland Shore Regional Health

If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider for medical advice.

Your health care provider may advise you to isolate yourself from others. Steps for isolation include:

COVID-19 Update

- Limiting your exposure to others by staying home (except for when seeking medical care)
- Avoiding public transit, taxis or ride-sharing
- Wearing a face mask, if you are sick
- Limiting contact with other members of your household and pets

Please do not show up unannounced at an emergency room or other medical facility. You should speak with your healthcare provider, who can alert an emergency room so that its staff is ready with proper protective gear.

For more up-to-date information visit our website: <https://www.umms.org/coronavirus/what-to-know>.

Where to Find More Information

- **CDC COVID-2019 Website:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- **Talbot County COVID-19 Information** <http://www.talbotdes.org/covid19.asp>
- **Maryland Department of Health Website:** <https://health.maryland.gov/pages/home.aspx>
- **Talbot County Health Department Website:**
<https://health.maryland.gov/talbotcounty/Pages/home.aspx>
- **Talbot County Health Department Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/TalbotHealthMaryland/>
- **Talbot County Department of Emergency Services Website:** <http://www.talbotdes.org/default.asp>
- **Talbot County Department of Emergency Services Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/talbotdes>