

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/>

Key Points for March 27

- ✓ Maryland counted 174 new COVID-19 cases in the last 24 hours, totaling 774; nine new cases were on the Eastern Shore. No new positives in Talbot County.
- ✓ All childcare providers have been ordered to close by 5 p.m. Friday, March 27.
- ✓ The Talbot County Health Department is working with the YMCA of the Chesapeake to provide sheltering for the children of essential workers.
- ✓ The Talbot County Department of Social Services personnel will be teleworking beginning Monday; services will continue.
- ✓ Police are awaiting a comprehensive list of businesses that are required to be closed.
- ✓ Please call 410-770-5515 if you or someone you know needs assistance getting food. This phone is operated Monday through Friday 8 AM to 5 PM.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 27, 2020

“We Are Prepared” Talbot County Mobilizes as COVID-19 Cases in Maryland Increase

Talbot County’s medical professionals, emergency personnel, and social service agencies have spent the past two weeks preparing for what could be a surge of cases if the COVID-19 virus continues to spread, and they stand ready if needed.

“We have a great team in place,” says Talbot County Council President Corey Pack. “We are well positioned to address the needs of this community.”

University of Maryland Shore Regional Health, for example, has tested and is refining its surge plan in preparation for increased cases. The hospital has added emergency tents and continues to evaluate staffing and supplies. Care for the children of essential workers is being provided as needed. “Shore Regional Health is actively preparing for the presence of COVID-19 in our communities,” says Ken Kozel, UM SRH president and CEO. “Every day, our medical and nursing staffs and team members in every aspect of our health care system, are working together to plan for various contingencies in the event of a surge of patients who need hospitalization.”

All residents have a part to play in helping reduce the spread of the virus. “Everyone should be taking all of this very seriously, especially recommendations for social distancing,” says County Health Officer Dr. Fredia Wadley.

“We see the cases rapidly rising in New York and New Jersey every day, making this time more critical than ever not to let our guard down,” reiterates Director of Emergency Services and Assistant County Manager, Clay Stamp. Vigilance within our community and sustainability in our operations will keep us ahead of this pandemic in doing our part to

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flatten the curve and preparing for any health care surge that we may have.”

TCPS Food Distribution

Update - 3/27/2020

Beginning Monday March 30, meal pick-up will CONTINUE AT THE FOLLOWING SITES ONLY:

Easton Middle School

Easton Elementary-Dobson

St. Michaels Middle High School

On Monday March 30, we will begin delivery based on requests received by 4:00 Wednesday 3/25/2020. Requests received after that time will be added when possible. In order to maintain social distancing, volunteers will leave meals at mailboxes, front steps, etc. They will not knock on doors. Deliveries will occur during the approximate time frame of 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Talbot County Circuit Court

Family Law Legal Assistance

The Maryland Courts have extended the closure of all court houses to the public through May 1, 2020 per the Administrative order signed by Chief Judge Barbera on March 25, 2020.

<https://www.mdcourts.gov/sites/default/files/admin-orders/20200325extendinglengthofrestrictedoperations.pdf>

With the closure of the court houses to the public, all in-person Family Law Self Help clinics have been cancelled. The Circuit Court for Talbot County, Family Services Program is striving to continue to provide free legal services during the extended closure by holding telephonic clinics in April. If you need legal advice or assistance with forms for divorce, custody, visitation, child support, guardianship, or name changes please contact **Barbara Mitchell at (410) 819-9876** for your initial intake. You will be scheduled for an appointment to receive a call from a local family law attorney to assist you with your needs.

Appointments are limited and on a first come first served basis. It is encouraged that individuals that need immediate assistance with a family law matter take advantage of the state-wide resources available. To chat with an attorney free of charge online visit www.mdcourts.gov/selfhelp or call (410) 260-1392. Courts are still accepting pleadings and filing of paperwork by mail, through the MDEC electronic filing system, and through drop boxes located at the front of the buildings.

Talbot County Library

- Updated information about the Talbot County Free Library can be found by going to: <https://www.facebook.com/Talbot-County-Free-Library-130124829867/> or www.tcfl.org
- If you don't already have a library card, follow the steps below to get a temporary online card:
 1. Visit the Library's website at www.tcfl.org
 2. Select the "Find" tab in the upper right hand corner of the homepage
 3. In the drop-down menu that appears, click on "Get a Library Card"
 4. Scroll down to "Online Card Registration" at the bottom of the page
 5. Click on "Register for a temporary library card number."

Go to <http://www.tcfl.org/eresources/> to access the following eResources, eBooks and much more:

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- **Adult Learning Center.** Prepare for the High School Equivalency Test; the U.S. Citizenship Test; connect with a live expert to learn Microsoft Word, Excel, or PowerPoint; learn how to write an effective resume, and more.
- **Ancestry Library Edition.** This famous, world-class genealogy search engine is normally only available on-site in the library, but while the Coronavirus is keeping so many of us at home, Ancestry has taken the unprecedented step of making its services available to all library card holders through the end of May.
- **BookFlix.** Children's picture books come alive!
- **Brainfuse.** Live tutoring, a writing lab, meet with friends in a private virtual study room, and more.
- **Chilton Library.** Chilton's renowned mechanics collection of information about automobile parts and repairs for many, many different makes and models.
- **Gale Courses.** An entire suite of courses and learning labs that will teach you everything from middle school English to Microsoft Excel to how to become an accountant.
- **Genealogy Connect.** Yet another great genealogy eResource.
- **Hoopla.** Instantly borrow movies, music, eBooks, and more. One of the library's most popular eResources.
- **Kids Infobits.** Guaranteed to keep young children occupied with fun facts on a host of interesting topics.
- **Literary Reference Center.** A full-text literary eResource that contains thousands of synopses, critical essays, book reviews, literary journals, and author biographies, plus full-text classic novels, short stories and poems.
- **Mango Languages.** Learn to speak Mandarin Chinese, French, Levantine Arabic, German, Japanese, Brazilian Portuguese, and more.
- **MasterFILE Premier.** Read full-text articles from current and back issues of more than 1,600 magazines and journals, including *Consumer Reports*.
- **News Bank.** Access articles from current and back issues of area magazines and newspapers, including *The Star Democrat*, *The Capital*, *The Dorchester Star*, and *The Times Record*.
- **Novelist Plus.** Trying to find the second book in a series or a mystery written by an author whose stories are similar to John Sandford's? This is the eResource for you!
- **Overdrive/Libby.** Thousands of eBooks and audiobooks available for check out. One of the library's most popular eResources.
- **Testing and Education Reference Center.** Microsoft program tutorials; GED, SAT, and AP exam prep; scholarship search; career guidance; and more!

Where to Find More Information

- **CDC COVID-2019 Website:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- **Talbot County COVID-19 Information** www.talbotcovid19.org
- **Shore Regional Health COVID Information** <https://www.umms.org/shore/patients-visitors/coronavirus>
- **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>