

# COVID-19 Update

Talbot County Emergency Services  
Clay Stamp, Director, Asst. County Manager  
[www.talbotdes.org](http://www.talbotdes.org)



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

## Key Points for June 22

- ✓ Maryland reported 297 new COVID-19 cases in the past 24 hours, bringing the statewide number to 64,603.
- ✓ The state positivity rate is at an all-time low of 5.03% as of yesterday.
- ✓ Talbot County has a total of 109 confirmed COVID-19 cases and five deaths. 92 people of the 109 cases have since recovered.

**For Immediate Release**  
**June 22, 2020**

## State of Emergency Enacted by County Council in Response to COVID-19 Could End June 30

On Tuesday evening, June 23, 2020, the Talbot County Council will consider allowing the current State of Emergency to expire as scheduled on June 30, 2020, as restrictions designed to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus ease and residents and businesses transition into a recovery period.

The Emergency Operations Center was first activated on March 12, 2020, when it became evident that the impact of the deadly COVID-19 virus would be widespread. Led by Talbot County Health Officer Dr. Fredia Wadley, Council President Corey Pack and the Talbot County Council, and Director of Emergency Services Clay Stamp, the EOC has been supported by more than 75 representatives from various agencies and organizations that coordinated the preparations and activities that have helped keep the virus in check in Talbot County.

In the beginning, Emergency Operations Center personnel held coordination calls daily. By sharing important information and identifying critical needs, county partners were able to respond quickly. Working groups were developed to address the most urgent needs.

One group worked to address “surge capacity” and ensure the hospital and local medical facilities had the resources in place to treat patients in the event of outbreaks and “surges” in the number of COVID-19 hospitalizations. Others worked to support Talbot County’s network of food pantries as area residents endured a stay-at-home order and the needs of the unemployed, elderly, and food insecure grew. Another team was tasked with providing shelter for the children of essential workers, while yet another group supported businesses impacted by COVID-19.

“By adding testing, tracking, and medical surge capacity, establishing systems of coordination, and by building reserves together, we have positioned Talbot County for success against this infectious disease,” Stamps says.

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“Our positivity rate is among the lowest in the state as is our number of confirmed COVID-19 cases.

“I believe this is a result of the community-wide response that we mounted and one we must maintain through social distancing and proper hygiene as the Coronavirus remains a threat moving forward.” Stamp continues. “We will continue to closely monitor the spread and adjust our response actions proportionately.”

Even if there is a second or third wave of the coronavirus, Talbot County will be ready. The Health Department has developed a new contact tracing unit that can be activated at a moment’s notice, and the county’s COVID-19 testing capabilities have increased exponentially. A dedicated COVID-19 test site has been set up in the parking lot at Easton High School, and emergency planners have worked to increase the county’s inventory of Personal Protective Equipment.

“The good news is that all of the necessary components are in place for us to better respond if the trending shifts and we see a resurgence of COVID-19 infections,” says Dr. Wadley. “At this point, we are closely monitoring the numbers and supporting the community as the statewide recovery plan is implemented.”

Though the State of Emergency is set to expire on June 30, there is much work still to be done. Emergency Operations Center personnel will continue to monitor local, state, and national trends. Late in the month, a recovery coordinator will come onboard to maintain Talbot County’s preparedness level and assist with various components of the recovery efforts as outlined in the Governor’s Maryland Strong Roadmap for Recovery.

Still, Talbot County Council President Corey Pack says he is amazed by all that the EOC and its partners have accomplished in the last 103 days.

“I could not be more proud of our staff and our people,” Pack says. “We have banded together and worked in unison to usher our citizens and our businesses through these troubling days of this pandemic. The qualities that make Talbot County such a special place have never been more evident. At the same time it remains important we all continue to adhere to safety guidance as we cautiously navigate the path ahead.”

For complete updates on Talbot County’s coronavirus response, visit [www.talbotcovid19.org](http://www.talbotcovid19.org).

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## 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](http://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>
- **Maryland COVID-19 Website:** <https://governor.maryland.gov/coronavirus>