

# 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 July 1

- ✓ Maryland reported 359 new COVID-19 cases in the past 24 hours, bringing the statewide number to 67,918.
- ✓ The state positivity rate continues to decrease, at 4.72% as of today. Talbot County's positivity rate has increased from 0.5% to 3.4%.
- ✓ Talbot County has a total of 133 confirmed COVID-19 cases and five deaths. 20% of the total confirmed cases in Talbot County have come in the last 12 days. This is likely a result of safety precautions not being followed as reopening has begun, family gatherings, and people taking trips to places such as the beach.

**For Immediate Release**  
**July 1, 2020**

## Continued Caution Necessary as Pandemic Continues

"The COVID-19 pandemic is far from over," says Dr. Fredia Wadley, Talbot County Health Officer. "We need to stop pretending that it is."

Dr. Wadley joined the chorus of health officials warning that relaxed restrictions and increased travel over the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday will accelerate an increase in COVID-19 cases.

Until recently, the number of new cases in Talbot County was low in comparison to surrounding counties on the Eastern Shore and other rural counties around the state. But the county's numbers have surged in the past week, with an additional 21 confirmed cases.

"Talbot County has seen its seven-day average positivity rate increase from 0.5% to 3.4%," Dr. Wadley says. "We did not even have a week with that many cases in the first wave that peaked in May."

While Talbot County's growing numbers are partially related to increased testing, the rise in cases is also being caused by a return to "business as usual" for many. Adherence to social distancing measures and mask usage have dropped as businesses have reopen.

"We are finding more confirmed cases of COVID-19 related to family reunions, trips to the beach, and other social gatherings," Dr. Wadley confirms. "But it's not just where you have been that increases your risk of infection. It's where everyone within six feet of you has been over the past two weeks—especially if those people were not wearing facial coverings."

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“Anyone who has been part of a large group event, visited a crowded beach or boardwalk, had a recent commercial air flight, participated in multiple smaller but varied social groups over the past two weeks, or has a household member that has done any of these should consider being tested,” she adds.

Talbot County Council President Corey Pack urges residents to remain vigilant over the holiday weekend and throughout the coming weeks as the virus remains a threat. “We are asking our citizens to listen to the health experts and take their advice seriously,” he says. “The recommended precautions are fairly simple, but they can save your life or the life of a loved one.”

Maryland’s number of new COVID-19 cases is holding steady, but other states have not been as fortunate. Last week, 29 states and U.S. territories were showing an increase in the number of new cases. Some of those states are concerned about their surge capacity because of the increase in COVID-19 hospitalizations, a statistic that typically lags behind the increase of new cases.

“Since we have no really effective drugs for COVID-19, the world is praying for an effective vaccine by the first part of 2021,” Dr. Wadley says. “Even if we are fortunate and have a vaccine by then, it will take months to vaccinate those willing to be vaccinated. Until then, we only have non-pharmaceutical interventions proven to prevent many cases of COVID-19. Those include social or physical distancing, wearing facial covering, and good hand hygiene.

“We have the testing capability now to test when anyone has symptoms,” she continues. “We have the contact tracing capacity for another surge. We have the surge capacity at our hospital and adequate stores of Personal Protective Equipment. Unfortunately, it appears that we may need all of these if we continue to pretend that the pandemic is over.”

The Talbot County Health Department’s testing site at Easton High School is open from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Identification confirming Talbot County residency is required. Call 410-819-5632 for an appointment. There is no charge for the testing.

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>

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## DRIVE-THRU FOOD DISTRIBUTION FOR THE COMMUNITY

FRIDAY, JULY 3, 2020  
10 AM - 12 PM

NEW ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
9123 TILGHMAN ISLAND ROAD  
WITTMAN, MD 21676

TALBOT RESIDENTS ONLY

25 lb USDA produce boxes in addition to frozen meat and shelf stable items available for each household!

DO NOT get out of your car. You will need to complete form given on site and a picture of form will be taken through closed window to limit contact. Please clear your trunk so food can be loaded without you exiting your car.

No walk-ups allowed

For more information contact 410-770-5515 or email [talbotct@talbotcountymd.gov](mailto:talbotct@talbotcountymd.gov).

## TALBOT COUNTY FREE LIBRARY VIRTUAL PROGRAMS July 1 - August 31

### Families with Young Children:

#### REPTILE WONDERS

Facebook and TCFL.org  
Wednesday, July 1, 10:30 a.m.  
Fun for the whole family!

#### READ ALONG WITH MS. LAURA!

Facebook LIVE  
Wednesdays, July 1 - August 26, 3 p.m.  
Children's chapter book read aloud. Books available on Hoopla. Recommended for children ages 6 & up.

#### MINDFUL START KIDS YOGA

Facebook and TCFL.org  
Thursdays, July 2 - August 27, 10:00 a.m.  
Recommended for families with children ages 5 and under.

#### STORY TIME

Facebook LIVE  
Tuesdays, July 7 - August 25, 10:00 a.m.  
Stories, songs, and rhymes!  
Recommended for families with children ages 5 and under.

#### CARMEN AGRA DEEDY

Live Stories on Facebook  
Fridays at Noon  
Picture book read aloud.  
To find out more, please visit this YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/f2vSVolk92Y>

### For Tweens & Teens:

#### DIGITAL ESCAPE ROOMS: READING FUN!

Facebook and TCFL.org  
Try out these fun activities when it's good for you.  
Recommended for ages 9 and up.

#### MUSIC FUN WITH MR. JONATHAN

Facebook and TCFL.org  
Mondays, July 6 - August 24  
Learn and play the ukulele!  
Recommended for ages 9 & up.

#### AFTERNOON CHESS CHALLENGES

Facebook and TCFL.org  
Tuesdays, July 7 & 21, August 4 & 18  
Practice your chess moves!  
Recommended for ages 6-16.

#### KEEP READING

all the way until  
August 31 and collect  
your End of Summer  
Reading prize!  
Prizes include Maryland  
Science Center tickets,  
Orioles tickets, and gift  
certificates to local  
ice-creameries and more.

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## MID-SHORE PRO BONO

We are available by phone, email and online!



**WE ARE OPEN AND HERE TO HELP!**

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT  
EVICTIONS - EMPLOYMENT - MORTGAGES -  
CREDIT CARD DEBT

**DON'T WAIT!**

**CALL TO US!**  
(Hablamos Español)

Easton 410-690-8128  
Chestertown 443-298-9425  
Salisbury 410-829-0394

### ONLINE INTAKES

[www.midshoreprobono.org](http://www.midshoreprobono.org)  
E-mail us at [info@midshoreprobono.org](mailto:info@midshoreprobono.org)

FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION ON MARYLAND  
COURTS PLEASE VISIT:  
<https://mdcourts.gov/coronavirusinformationforpublic>

### LEGAL SERVICES IN:

- Family Law
- Elder Law
- Immigration Law
- Consumer Debt
- Housing
- Bankruptcy
- Foreclosure
- Record Expungement
- Small Claims
- Child Custody and Visitation
- Legal Separation
- Guardianship
- Divorce
- Advance Medical Directive
- Wills
- Landlord-Tenant
- Power of Attorney

Mid-Shore Pro Bono staff are here to help work with you to achieve clarity and confidence in challenging times. For Family Law Matters call 443-496-5011. For Elder Law matters call 410-200-5027.

If you or anyone you know is in need of legal services, contact us today: [info@midshoreprobono.org](mailto:info@midshoreprobono.org)

To speak to someone directly, call 410.690.8128 M-F 10am-2pm

