

PAMELA E. QUEEN
Legislative District 14
Montgomery County

—
Economic Matters Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 224
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3380 · 301-858-3380
800-492-7122 Ext. 3380
Fax 410-841-3266 · 301-858-3266
Pam.Queen@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Coronavirus/COVID-19: Rent, Utilities, and Food
Resources**

Help for Renters

Renters having trouble paying rent due to the Coronavirus situation are temporarily protected from eviction per order of the Governor of Maryland. This order is in effect until the State of Emergency ends.



Per the order:

- The Maryland Courts have suspended all pending eviction matters until future notice.
- During the eviction moratorium, landlords are permitted to issue eviction notices pursuant to their lease agreements and to pursue collection actions. However, *no court action* will be administered as long as the eviction moratorium remains in force and/or the courts are closed.
- If a landlord attempts to *physically evict* a tenant during this moratorium, the tenant can call the police non-emergency number at **301-279-8000**.

Other information for renters can be found at the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA) – click [here](#).

Help with Utilities

The CARES Act provides funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program to help low-income households with heating and cooling in homes, weatherization, and energy-related low-cost home repairs or replacements.

Click [here](#) to apply for utilities assistance through Maryland's Office of Home Energy Programs (OHEP) or call **1-800-332-6347**.

Other information on assistance and support for home utilities is found below:

- **BGE** and Coronavirus Support – click [here](#). Hearing and speech impaired customers should call **1-800-735-2258**.
- **Pepco** and Coronavirus Support - click [here](#). Customers may contact Pepco Customer Care at **202-833-7500** for assistance.
- **Washington Gas** and Coronavirus Support – click [here](#). Customers may call Washington Gas at **844-WASHGAS (927-4427)** for assistance.

Help with Internet Access

Free and discounted Internet Access during the COVID-19 crisis may be found via the links below:

- Charter/Spectrum

FREE 60 day WiFi for K-12 & College students.

Call (844) 488-8395 to enroll.

- [Comcast](#)

\$10 monthly plan of Internet Essentials.

- [Mediacom](#)

FREE 60 days of service for families who *subscribe* by **May 15**.

- [Suddenlink](#)

FREE 60 day WiFi for K-12 & College students in new households.

Other information on phone and Internet support during the COVID-19 health crisis is below:

- [Verizon](#)
- [Comcast/Infinity](#)
- [AT&T](#)

Help with Food Assistance

SNAP Enrollment

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has approved Maryland's request to issue emergency SNAP payments to currently enrolled households for April and May 2020. This means residents who receive SNAP benefits will receive the maximum amount allowed per month from April 1 through May 31.

Residents can also call the Maryland Benefits Center at [1-833-373-5867](tel:1-833-373-5867), Maryland Hunger Solutions at [1-866-821-5552](tel:1-866-821-5552), or Spanish Catholic Center [301-453-5560](tel:301-453-5560) to get help in applying for SNAP and other benefits. Or residents seeking to enroll in the SNAP (food stamp) program can [apply online](#).

Frequently Asked Questions about SNAP are available at- [FAQs in English & en Español](#).

Free Meals

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) is providing free breakfasts, lunches and dinner meals for children 18 years old and younger and all MCPS students (regardless of age) at more than 40 sites (including mobile sites) throughout the county. Additionally, MCPS school buses will distribute meals in several neighborhoods and county shopping centers. The meal schedule and locations can be found [here](#).


Maryland's Largest School District
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

MEAL AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE BEGINNING THE WEEK OF APRIL 20, 2020

MCPS is committed to the health and wellness of our students and staff. Beginning April 20, 2020, MCPS is adjusting its meal site distribution schedule. Sites will operate as normal on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. On Wednesdays, MCPS will provide two days worth of meals. On Thursdays, all meals sites will be closed. This change will reduce opportunities for the spread of COVID-19 and help us increase our meal production capabilities. Additionally, we will distribute printed instructional materials at meals sites every Wednesday beginning April 22, 2020.

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breakfast• Lunch• Dinner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breakfast• Lunch• Dinner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breakfast (x2)• Lunch (x2)• Dinner (x2) <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weekly Instructional Material Distribution	Meals Sites Closed to Limit Contact Opportunities and Support Enhanced Meal Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breakfast• Lunch• Dinner <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manna Food Center Weekend Food Bags

Find Distribution Locations at MontgomerySchoolsMD.org/Coronavirus/Meals/#EmergencyMeals



Manna Food Center (Manna) is temporarily *waiving income requirements* to provide food to any Montgomery County resident impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. Residents are encouraged to contact Manna as soon as possible to begin receiving food through regular distribution channels.

Visit Manna's [food distribution](#) page to see updated site locations & schedules. Call [301-424-1130](tel:301-424-1130) to make an appointment by 3 PM the day before you want to pick up.

Other Food Assistance

The [Montgomery County Food Council](#) has a [Food Assistance Resource Directory](#) (available in English & [Español](#)) that includes information on the location, hours, and eligibility guidelines for 100+ sites in Montgomery County where residents can access food & benefits application assistance.

Also, meals are available at:

- [Olney Help](#)
- [Sheppard's Table](#)
- [GaithersburgHELP](#); and
- [Women Who Care Ministries](#)