



Marc Elrich, County Executive
Andrew Kleine, Chief Administrator Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Linda Moore, UCAB Chair

May 30, 2020

Reopening Montgomery County: Phase I

Effective Monday, June 1 6am

Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich and County Health Officer Dr. Travis Gayles have announced that critical benchmarks to reduce the spread of COVID-19 have been achieved, allowing the County to begin a gradual reopening. The County plans for an incremental reopening, based on public health data. Read the actual [Executive Order](#) for information on religious services and more.

Also check the new [website](#) with industry-specific guidelines for re-opening.

Questions? Send them to bizinfocovid19@montgomerycountymd.gov.

RETAIL	RESTAURANTS	CHILDCARE
Curbside Only	Outdoor Dining (Curbside Pickup Still in Effect)	Open for Children of Essential Employees and Phase I Opening Employees
OUTDOOR YOUTH SPORTS	PERSONAL SERVICES	OUTDOOR DAY CAMPS
Limited, Low-Contact Outdoor Practices (Games Not Permitted)	Hair Salons and Barbers by Appointment for Select Hair Services Only	9 or Fewer Campers with 1 Counselor
CAR WASHES	MANUFACTURING	
Exterior Cleaning Only	Open for Operations	

Face coverings to be worn in all public spaces where physical distancing can't be maintained.
(Except when seated at outdoor restaurant tables).

Our Road to Reopening

- [Read the full release](#)
- See [Executive Order](#)

**Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board's
Quality of Life Committee Meeting
Monday, June 8 7:00pm**

Topic: Landlord-Tenant Relations - Rent Stabilization During Emergencies (Enacted Bill 18-20E)
Guest: County Councilmember Will Jawando

This will be a virtual meeting held on Zoom. Before joining a Zoom meeting on a computer or mobile device, you can download the Zoom app from [our Download Center](#). Otherwise, you will be prompted to download and install Zoom when you click a join link. You can also [join a test meeting](#) to familiarize yourself with Zoom.

To join the meeting with video and/or audio, click on <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6479534370> or call in to 1-301-715-8592 for audio only.

The public is welcomed at all UCAB meetings!

Note: Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, please call 240-328-4587 or email a request to catherine.matthews@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Montgomery County will Begin Accepting Applications for Its Business Microenterprise Stabilization Program on Wednesday, June 10

Montgomery County will begin accepting applications to its Microenterprise Stabilization Program (MSP) beginning Wednesday, June 10. Applications will be accepted through Tuesday, June 16. The MSP initiative is designed to help for-profit businesses with five or fewer employees in response to the COVID-19 health crisis. In addition to for-profit businesses, the program is open to businesses with no employees including sole proprietors and independent contractors. Information on the eligibility requirements and required documentation is available on the program web page at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/biz-resources/msp.

The program is funded through Community Development Block Grants and, as such, federal guidelines on income eligibility must be followed. An applicant must be a U.S. Citizen or a qualified alien as defined by [8 U.S.C. 1641](#).

A fact sheet describing eligibility and document requirements will be available in Spanish, Amharic, French, Korean, Mandarin and Vietnamese. It will be viewable on the program web site soon at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/biz-resources/msp.

The County will host webinars to answer questions and further explain the MSP program starting at 9:00am on Monday, June 1, through Saturday, June 13 (excluding Sunday, June 7). A webinar will also be provided for Spanish-speakers and one for Mandarin-speakers. Webinar links, the schedule and instructions are available at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/biz-resources/msp.

More information on the MSP program is available at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/biz-resources/msp. Questions about the program should be directed to BizinfoCovid19@montgomerycountymd.gov.

COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program

Deadline for applications and documents is 2:00pm on Friday, June 5.

Montgomery County is offering up to 3 months partial rent support to low-income tenants who lost income due to COVID-19. Applications and documents must be submitted to the Housing Opportunities Commission by Friday, June 5 at 2:00pm.

- Visit the [Housing Opportunities Commission website](#)
- [See press release](#)

COVID-19: Rent Relief Program

Información en Español

The COVID-19 Rent Relief Program provides short term rental assistance to households who have experienced a financial loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic that has caused them to fall behind on their rent. Financial assistance is available to pay back rent that is due, as well as provide additional support for up to three months. Assistance is also available to cover the costs of security deposits, first month's rent, and limited monthly assistance for households exiting homelessness. The program is funded through a \$3.5 million supplemental appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to help residents.

I applied for the COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program--is this the same program? - No, the COVID-19 Rent Relief Program is separate and different from the COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program. This program is administered through DHHS' Housing Stabilization Services. The amount of the benefit is determined on a case-by-case basis, and eligibility guidelines are different (see below). The COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program is administered by the Housing Opportunities Commission, and has its own eligibility guidelines.

If you think you may be eligible for the COVID-19 Rent Relief Program, based on the eligibility, call 311 or complete a [service request](#).

COVID-19: Emergency Assistance Relief Payment (EARP) – Phase 2

Phase 2 of the EARP program began on Monday, May 18.

Información en Español

What is the Emergency Assistance Relief Payment (EARP) Program?

Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic is causing an unprecedented financial hardship for many Montgomery County residents, the Emergency Assistance Relief Payment is a program that provides immediate financial assistance to households in need. While the need is great, this program seeks to fill the gaps for those who are not eligible or who will not benefit directly from the federal or state COVID-19 aid.

How do I apply for the EARP in Phase 2? There are two ways to apply for the EARP.

1. Call 311 and ask about completing an application and being assigned to a processing organization. You will be placed in line and contacted by a partner organization. Processing will be much faster with a referral. Be sure to write down your **Service Request Number**
2. Apply through one of the [referral partners or community-based organizations](#) that is working with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to process applications. If you have previously used their services, contact them and they will submit an application on your behalf.

Visit the [webpage](#) for details on eligibility, requirements and payments!

COVID-19 Data Dashboard

Check out the County's new [COVID-19 data dashboard](#). The dashboard provides information on hospitalizations, number of patients in intensive care units, and number of ventilators in use as well as previously available information regarding the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths. The metrics are updated daily at 2pm and other data is updated on Tuesdays and Fridays. This information will help guide the County's decisions as we continue to work toward future phases for re-opening businesses and community facilities and activities.

- [COVID-19 data dashboard](#)
- [Read the full release](#)

Montgomery County Signs Contract with Rockville-Based AdvaGenix; Boosts COVID-19 Testing Capacity by the Thousands

https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=25348



Montgomery County Food Resources

Find a [listing of food distribution sites](#), tools for providers, and opportunities to donate.

Telework Assistance Program Fund Still Accepting Applications

Montgomery County's Telework Assistance Program Fund was approved by the Montgomery County Council on April 30 and the County Council added an additional \$1,250,000 to the initial \$250,000 appropriation on May 14. **The program is designed to reimburse Montgomery County businesses and non-profit organizations for expenses incurred implementing a telework policy due to the COVID-19 health crisis.**

The Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC) will administer and award grants of up to \$2,500 to eligible County businesses and non-profits for verified teleworking equipment and software purchased in response to the pandemic, until the funds are exhausted.

[Applications](#) are still open. To be fair and equitable, the telework grants will be awarded to eligible applicants using a lottery system each week. The MCEDC will award grants on a lottery system (versus a first-come, first-serve system) so as not to disadvantage applicants who may need time to locate receipts, pull their materials together and [submit an application](#).

Applications must be submitted by 5:00 pm on Wednesday each week to be considered for that week's lottery.

Applicants who are qualified but not selected in the lottery will be included in the upcoming weekly lottery. This process will continue until June 5, unless funding runs out prior to that date.

Montgomery County Board of Elections 2020 Presidential Primary Election

June 2, 2020 7am – 8pm



Vote-By-Mail Election

Frequently Asked Questions

[English](#) / [Spanish](#) / [Chinese](#) / [French](#) / [Korean](#) / [Vietnamese](#) / [Amharic](#)

Upcounty Ballot Drop Box Locations

Montgomery County Board of Elections
18753 N. Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg

Activity Center at Bohrer Park
506 South Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg

Germantown Community Recreation Center
18905 Kingsview Road, Germantown

Raptor Ready: New Scholarship Program for Eligible County Graduates Covers Tuition and Fees for One Montgomery College Class

Montgomery College's new Raptor Ready Scholarship Program is designed to help 2020 Montgomery County high school graduates get an early introduction into highly transferable college courses in an online or structured remote environment. The scholarship program covers tuition and fees for one course (four credit hours maximum) and a grant to cover technology or educational supplies not to exceed \$530 for the second summer session at MC, which begins July 11. The program is for spring 2020 Montgomery County high school graduates who are Montgomery County residents, including anticipated June graduates. There is also a limited number of Raptor Ready scholarships and vouchers available for DACA, Dreamer, and F1 students through the Montgomery College Foundation.

The Raptor Ready scholarships are limited and students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Raptor Ready scholarship. If you have questions, send an email to RaptorReady@montgomerycollege.edu.



PeaceJam Invites Youths to Join in a Virtual Conversation with Kailash Satyarthi, 2014 Nobel Peace Laureate

“Building the World We Want - Creating a Compassionate Economy”
Friday, June 5 10:00am EST

Youths and adults are invited to join Kailash Satyarthi (2014 Nobel Peace Laureate), Brian Kelly (PeaceJam Global Ambassador), Chade-Meng Tan (Billion Acts Co-Chair), and MaryPat Hector as moderator alongside other leading youth activists from around the world to discuss how to build a more compassionate economy for a better future.



PeaceJam is an international organization that features Nobel Peace Prize Winners mentoring youth to change the world, with a focus on leadership development and a commitment to positive change in themselves and their communities. Nathaniel “Nate” Tinbrite, Student Member of the Montgomery County Board of Education has been active in PeaceJam for several years and continues to support the program.

TWO WAYS TO JOIN THE EVENT! - Register for the Zoom webinar at www.peacejam.org OR watch the livestream on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/user/PeaceJamHQ>

*Please note you must be aged 13+ to attend this webinar or be accompanied by a parent/guardian.
Montgomery County is a Founding Partner of PeaceJam's Mid-Atlantic Region*



Montgomery County Council approves FY21 Operating Budget and FY21-26 Capital Improvements Program that provides continuity of services for residents

The Council's focus was to produce a continuity of services budget; Property tax stays within County Charter Limit with \$692 property tax credit for homeowners

Last week, the Montgomery County Council voted unanimously to approve the County's \$5.8 billion Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Operating Budget and a \$4.4 billion FY21-26 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) to fund school construction, infrastructure improvements and community projects. The Council's focus throughout its budget work was on providing continuity of services for County government and residents.

The County's \$4.4 billion Capital Improvements Program (CIP) provides funding to address the County's most urgent building needs and includes funding for major improvements for Upcounty's Neelsville Middle School and Poolesville High School on schedules proposed by the Board of Education. In addition, major projects at South Lake Elementary School and Damascus High School were also added to the CIP. The CIP includes planning and design for a new Clarksburg Library and additional improvements for pedestrian and bicycle safety throughout the County.

The capital and operating budgets will go into effect on July 1. The Council's final budget resolutions are posted [here](#).

[Read more](#) about funding for schools, children, youth & families, economic development, public safety, Montgomery College, and other projects.

County Extends Time to Pay BPP Taxes

The County's 2020 business personal property (BPP) tax payment requirements have been extended until after Maryland Governor Larry Hogan lifts the state of emergency executive order. [More details here](#)



Residents' Input Requested for Shared Streets Initiative to Help Businesses

Safe and accessible public spaces are a critical aspect of community health and vibrancy. MCDOT understands that our public rights of way are a key resource for residents and businesses, and that the best use of those spaces may shift under changing circumstances. In response to the COVID-19 health crisis, Montgomery County's Department of Transportation's (MCDOT) planners and engineers are thinking creatively about how the use of our streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities can be adjusted to best serve today's needs and allow safe, social distanced activity. As a result, MCDOT is implementing a new initiative—[Shared Streets](#).

Learn more at <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT/sharedstreets/>

Take the short resident survey to share your ideas!

Eat Up! Support Our Upcounty Restaurants and Take-Out on Tuesdays

Take Out Tuesdays is a theme that recently has been organized in communities across the nation in an effort to support local restaurants and County Executive Marc Elrich is joined by County Councilmembers Andrew Friedson, Sidney Katz and Craig Rice; District 14 State Senator Craig Zucker and Delegates Anne Kaiser, Eric Luedtke, and Pamela Queen; District 15 State Senator Brian Feldman and Delegates Kathleen Dumais, David Fraser-Hidalgo and Lily Qi; and District 39 State Senator Nancy King and Delegates Gabriel Acevero, Lesley Lopez and Kirill Reznik in supporting the *Eat Up!* efforts in the northern part of the county.

Many restaurants have been struggling to maintain business during the pandemic and our elected officials are combining their resources for the campaign that will encourage residents to order takeout meals to assist the restaurants.

The Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce and Clarksburg Chamber of Commerce, with the assistance of Montgomery County's Upcounty Regional Office, have been working with the restaurants on this initiative.

Restaurants that have committed to participate in *Eat Up: Upcounty Take Out Tuesdays* can be found at:

- Clarksburg: <https://bit.ly/3bytmPE>
- Damascus: <https://bit.ly/2Kt3mcy>
- Gaithersburg: <https://bit.ly/2Kt2e8O>
- Germantown: <https://bit.ly/2VtLapR>
- Montgomery Village: <https://bit.ly/2Kt4rB3>
- Poolesville: <https://bit.ly/2zk8q0p>

A list of restaurants throughout the County that remain open during the crisis can be found at Visit Montgomery's moco eats.com website

MDOT SHA PLANNED MAJOR LANE CLOSURES FOR THE WEEKEND OF MAY 29, 2020

<https://www.roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/pressreleasedetails.aspx?newsId=3618&PageId=818>

Real-Time travel conditions and live traffic cameras are available at md511.maryland.gov.



Represent Your Neighborhood! Post Your Census Message!

#Upcounty Counts! #Stand Upcounty

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DATA SOURCES

[OpenMontgomery](#)
[DataMontgomery](#)
[BudgetMontgomery](#)
[SpendingMontgomery](#)

For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:

County Council <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council>

Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/news_releases

Also check out the latest from:

Department of Public Libraries <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library> Department of Recreation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec>

Department of Transportation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html>

Department of Environmental Protection <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep>

Department of Permitting Services <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dps>

Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>

Office of Community Partnerships <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/partnerships>

Commission for Women <https://montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw>

Parks Department <http://www.montgomeryparks.org/>

Planning Department <http://montgomeryplanning.org/>

Department of Health and Human Services www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs