



# Calvert County NEWS

175 Main Street  
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*Board of Commissioners*

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** March 14, 2020

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### **Calvert County Courthouse Closed to the Public Effective March 16**

**PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – March 14, 2020** – Calvert County Government announces additional changes to county events and operations.

Calvert County Government continues to take precautionary measures to slow the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and limit the number of people infected, particularly older adults and those with chronic health conditions. At this time, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Calvert County.

On March 13, 2020, Mary Ellen Barbera, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and administrative head of the judicial branch ordered all courts in the Maryland Judiciary, court offices, administrative offices, units of the Judiciary, and the Office of the Clerks of the Circuit Courts be closed to the public on an emergency basis, effective March 16, 2020. The Circuit Court for Calvert County, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Calvert County Treasurer's Office, and Register of Wills, all located at 175 Main Street in Prince Frederick, are impacted by this order.

All courthouse employees are expected to report for work. Liberal leave policy is in effect subject to supervisor approval. Staff will be available by phone to provide information to assist the public.

The following mandatory matters shall continue to be scheduled and heard in the Circuit Court, in keeping with the urgency of those matters and consistent with statutory requirements, either in person

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or remotely pursuant to the Administrative Order on Remote Electronic Participation in Judicial Proceedings, June 18, 2018, with the court to notify all participants necessary to the proceeding:

- bail reviews
- arraignments
- emergency Habeas Corpus petitions
- juvenile detention hearings
- CINA shelter care and adjudication on shelter care
- emergency delinquency
- domestic violence protective petitions
- appeals from peace orders
- family law emergencies including petitions for guardianship
- temporary restraining orders
- emergency evaluation petitions
- quarantine and isolation petitions
- extradition cases
- Rule 4-271 determinations (Hicks)
- search warrants
- body attachments
- contempt

The following changes took effect at close of business March 13, and will remain in effect until further notice, unless otherwise indicated:

### **Department of Public Works**

- Bulk pickup, mattress pickup, HELP Association pickup and Carol Porto Treatment Facility pickup are suspended until further notice.
- The paper shred event scheduled for March 21 is canceled.
- All scheduled facility tours and events are canceled.

### **Calvert Marine Museum**

- Calvert Marine Museum will close to the public until further notice.
- All museum programming and special events will be postponed or canceled. Information regarding rescheduling will be made available at a later date.

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**Planning Commission**

- The Planning Commission meeting scheduled for March 18 is canceled.

**Department of Parks & Recreation**

- All community centers are closed.
- Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center is closed.
- County parks will remain open for passive activities until further notice.
- Organized sporting events at county-owned parks are canceled.
- Indoor and outdoor recreational programs and activities at county parks and facilities are canceled until further notice. This includes sports, special events, aquatics, community center programs and rentals.
- All large special events and gatherings of 250 people or more, including private events, are canceled.
- All Parks & Recreation programs at school facilities are canceled.
- All Parks & Recreation events scheduled through April 30 are canceled.
- Breezy Point Blast-Off scheduled for May 16 is postponed until September.
- A flexible refund and cancellation policy has been enacted for Parks & Recreation programs and services.

**Office on Aging**

- All senior centers are closed.
- Meals on Wheels deliveries will continue. Congregate meal participants may request meal delivery through the Office on Aging at 410-535-4606 or [OOAmailbox@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:OOAmailbox@calvertcountymd.gov).

**Public Transportation**

- Regular route service will continue until further notice.
- Specialized service appointments are limited to medical or nutritional trips only.

**Calvert Library**

- All branches will close to the public beginning Monday, March 16, but limited services will continue. Details are available online at <https://calvertlibrary.info/research-learn/research-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-facts/>.

**Buildings and Grounds**

- Water fountains at all county-operated facilities, including dog parks, have been taken out of service.

Community shelters, including Project ECHO, Safe Harbor, Safe Nights and On Our Own are following infectious disease protocols to remain open and providing services, including meals, to the homeless population.

In addition, all in- and out-of-state training and conferences for county government employees, and all training sponsored by Calvert County Government is canceled until further notice.

The county has launched a virtual resource center on its website to share the latest updates surrounding Calvert County's response to COVID-19, including any precautionary measures, guidance and closures. Residents, employees and media are encouraged to regularly monitor the page and use the resources available at [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov/Coronavirus).

Updates will continue to appear on the Calvert County Government website, [www.CalvertCountyMd.gov](http://www.CalvertCountyMd.gov), Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd](https://www.facebook.com/CalvertCountyMd) and Comcast Channel 6.

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