



Calvert County NEWS

175 Main Street
Courthouse
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678
Phone: 410-535-4583 • 301-855-1880
www.co.cal.md.us

Board of Commissioners
Gerald W. Clark
Pat Nutter
Susan Shaw
Evan K. Slaughenhoupt Jr.
Steven R. Weems

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contacts: Mark Volland, Marketing Communications Specialist
410.535.4583 Email: vollanrm@co.cal.md.us
Carrie Lovejoy, Public Information Specialist
410.535.4583 Email: lovejocb@co.cal.md.us

Calvert County Cooling Centers to Remain Open This Weekend

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – July 5, 2012 – With temperatures expected to reach the upper 90s, and possibly over 100 degrees, this weekend, there are several places in Calvert County that residents can visit if they need to cool off.

Emergency cooling centers are not opened unless a heat advisory is issued, or the heat index rises above 105 degrees Fahrenheit for three consecutive days, but the county's community centers will be open during their regular hours and water fountains are available in each of them.

Residents who need to take refuge in a safe, cool place may go to one of the following locations during the hours listed:

Northeast Community Center

4075 Gordon Stinnett Avenue, Chesapeake Beach

Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Mount Hope Community Center

100 Pushaw Station Road, Sunderland

Thursday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Southern Community Center

20 Appeal Lane, Lusby

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center

130 Auto Drive, Prince Frederick

Thursday and Friday, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Calvert County residents are urged to take the following precautions to protect themselves and their families when temperatures rise:

- Drink plenty of fluids; water is best.
- Avoid beverages containing alcohol, caffeine or large amounts of sugar as they can dehydrate the body.
- Stay in an air-conditioned room or building during the hottest part of the day.
- Stay out of the sun.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- Check on elderly relatives and neighbors.
- Never leave children or pets in parked cars since temperatures can rise to 130 degrees inside vehicles in only a few minutes even with the windows rolled down.

Heat can affect anyone, but most at risk are the very young, very old and people with underlying health problems. Symptoms of heat illness include heavy sweating, muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, nausea, weak but rapid pulse and headaches. People with these symptoms should find shade, drink water slowly and make sure there is good ventilation.

To learn more about emergency preparedness, contact the Calvert County Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, at 410-535-1600 ext. 2638 or visit us on the Web at www.co.cal.md.us.

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Calvert County is Maryland's smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to over 92,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, energy, advanced manufacturing and administrative services.