

COVID-19 Update

Talbot County Emergency Services
Clay Stamp, Director, Asst. County Manager
www.talbotdes.org



Talbot County Health Department
Dr. Fredia Wadley, Health Officer
<https://health.maryland.gov/talbotcounty/>

Key Points for June 19

- ✓ Maryland reported 319 new COVID-19 cases in the past 24 hours, bringing the statewide number to 63,548.
- ✓ The state positivity rate is at an all-time low of 5.43% as of yesterday.
- ✓ Talbot County has a total of 106 confirmed COVID-19 cases and five deaths.
- ✓ Some 237 Talbot County residents have been tested at the Easton High School testing site, with no positive cases to date.
- ✓ The Talbot County Health Department has established a COVID Testing Site at Easton High School that operates Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. by appointment only. There is no physician order required and no out-of-pocket costs. You do not need to be symptomatic to be tested and uninsured individuals are welcome. An ID is required and you must be a Talbot County resident. Call 410-819-5632 to make your appointment.

For Immediate Release
June 19, 2020

Talbot County Health Department Sees Success With Contact Tracing and New Testing Site

Talbot County's new corps of contact tracers is trained and ready to work should the number of COVID-19 cases rise, says Dr. Fredia Wadley, Talbot County Health Officer.

"I am comfortable that we have plenty of staff waiting in the wings to handle any second wave that comes our way," Dr. Wadley stresses. "This is not the time to fall behind on contact tracing or testing. With our numbers low and now that we are finally getting the test kits we need, we are ready if the number of cases start to climb."

Some other jurisdictions elected to let contract tracers provided through a state grant be the first to contact people that had tested positive with the health department doing the cases that the vendor could not do. Many of these individuals were newly trained and had never done contact tracing before. The Talbot County Health Department hired health professionals to train as contact tracers. This decision has turned out to be a good one for Talbot County.

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“It is clear that most people don't understand how difficult good contact tracing is to do,” Dr. Wadley notes. “We expanded our staff with nurses and paramedics, people who already have an understanding of the spread of infectious diseases.”

The Health Department’s Easton High School testing site has also been a success. A total of 237 patients have been tested for COVID-19 infections in the drive-through facility that operates on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in the school’s parking lots.

“Any Talbot County resident may make an appointment to be tested with no out-of-pocket expense, even if they are not exhibiting symptoms and don’t have orders from a medical professional,” Dr. Wadley says. “All you need is identification showing that you are a Talbot County resident.”

Call (410) 819-5632 to make an appointment for a COVID-19 test.

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Easton Utilities

Easton Utilities will continue providing the essential services our customers rely on every day, while following the recommendations of federal, state and local agencies to protect the health of the public and our employees. Please note the following updates to our operations:

- The Customer Service Center and Drive-Thru are open daily, Monday – Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm.
- Employees are entering homes on an as-needed basis, pending the customer response to a COVID-19 screening checklist.
- As always, we remain flexible and willing to work with customers facing financial hardships during this time.

We will continuously monitor and update our policies to ensure we are providing the best possible service to our customers while maintaining the safety of all concerned. Thank you for your patience and flexibility during this time. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Customer Service at **410-822-6110**.

Talbot County Government

For Immediate Release

June 12, 2019

Contact: Andrew Hollis, Talbot County Manager 410-770-8010

Talbot County Government Reopens for Public Access

Talbot County Government has announced a plan to return to full staffing levels on Monday, June 15 and reopening County facilities to the public on Wednesday, June 17. Access to the County Court House will be limited to the County government areas (South Wing and Finance Office), as there will be no public access to the court and related State offices until July 22. A plan was developed by the County Manager’s Office in

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conjunction with the Talbot County Health Officer and Director of Emergency Services to ensure the health and safety of County employees and the general public.

“The County Council is pleased to open the County government again for public access and want to be sure citizens know that we are doing everything possible to protect them from the coronavirus while they are in our public spaces. We ask them to comply with the protocols that our own employees will practice to ensure our continued health and safety,” states Andrew Hollis, Talbot County Manager.

The following workplace safety enhancement protocols are now in place for all County employees. Employee health procedures include daily employee self-screening temperature checks in each department before beginning work (employees with fevers at or above 100 degrees Fahrenheit or who are experiencing coughing or shortness of breath will be sent home until those symptoms have subsided for three days); frequent handwashing throughout each workday; cleaning of work surfaces; wearing a face mask when working with citizens or in close contact with other employees, or entering a citizen’s home or business; and practicing social distancing of six feet between other employees or the public.

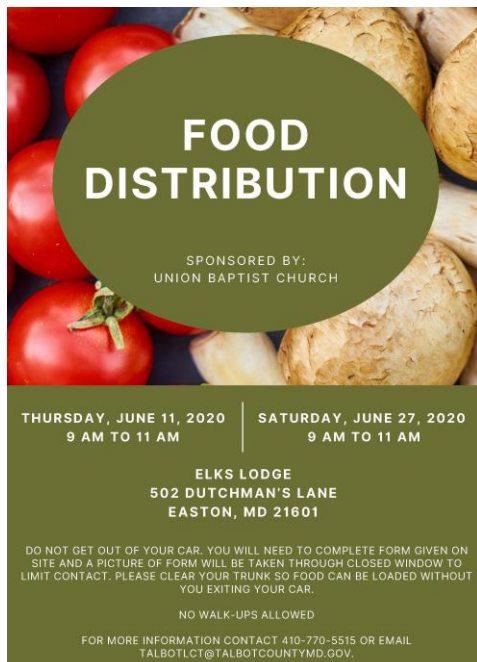
Visitor health procedures within County buildings include wearing a County-provided disposable mask or their personal mask; maintaining a six-foot separation at all times possible from staff and other visitors (should the public area of the department not permit the separation, then access will be limited to one member of the public at a time); and scheduling appointments whenever possible with County employees.

The County’s Facilities Maintenance Department has installed hand sanitizers throughout County buildings. County employees will frequently clean work surfaces using appropriate cleaning and disinfectant products.

The County is encouraging the use of video conferencing or telephone conferencing instead of in-person meetings and contactless pick-up of requested items (plans, records, bills, etc.).

For further information on the County’s new protocols, contact the Office of the County Manager at 410-770-8010.

Food Distribution



FOOD DISTRIBUTION

SPONSORED BY:
UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2020 | SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2020
9 AM TO 11 AM | 9 AM TO 11 AM

ELKS LODGE
502 DUTCHMAN'S LANE
EASTON, MD 21601

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
TALBOTLCT@TALBOTCOUNTYMD.GOV.

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Talbot County Free Library

New Pickup Service Beginning June 15 at the St. Michaels Branch

After a week's trial run at the Easton branch, St. Michaels will begin offering the same Books-to-Go service starting **Monday**. Each cardholder will be able to reserve up to **FIVE** items (books, audiobooks, or DVDs) via the catalog [on our website](#). *Chromebooks and Wi-Fi hotspots are unavailable at this time.*

When your materials are ready, you will be contacted to schedule a time for pick-up as early as the next day. Items at the Easton Library can only be picked up in Easton. Items at the St. Michaels Library can only be picked up in St. Michaels.

Materials will be bagged and available for contactless pickup **at the back entrance** of the St. Michaels branch. Bags will be on carts, sorted alphabetically by last name. **Thank you for wearing a face covering and following social distancing rules.**

For more details visit our [Books-to-Go Questions & Answers](#). Staff will be available by phone at the Easton branch 10 a.m.—1 p.m. **Monday—Thursday**.

The library continues to offer a wealth of e-resources and virtual programs available 24/7. More information can be found at: www.tcfl.org or email us at askus@tcfl.org

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
- **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>