

Kensington Around Town



Special Publication April 2020

Montgomery County Health Order

Effective Monday, April 13

Shoppers must wear face coverings in:

- ▶ Grocery Stores
- ▶ Pharmacies
- ▶ Large Retail Chain Stores
- ▶ Farmers Markets



COVID-19 INFORMATION



Virtual Town Council Meeting

The Town's Monday, April 20, 2020, 7:00 pm, Town Council Meeting will be held virtually through the Zoom Meeting application. The Town will provide a link, which will include a Meeting ID and Password, with our Agenda on Friday, April 17, 2020. The Agenda will be provided on our website at the following link: tok.md.gov/town-government/council-meetings/, and will also be sent out through our email notification system: tok.md.gov/sign-up/.

We encourage residents to download the Zoom application onto their computer, or smart device, prior to the Monday, April 20, 2020 Town Council Meeting. The Zoom application may be found at the following link: [Zoom.us](https://zoom.us).

Individuals wishing not to participate through the video conference meeting, may call in to the meeting via their personal phone. The telephone number, along with the Meeting ID and Password, will be provided on the meeting Agenda.

If you have any questions about the April 20, 2020 Town Council Meeting, or the Zoom application, please contact Matt Hoffman, Town Manager, at MJHoffman@tok.md.gov.



Town Election

Governor Hogan issued an Executive Order on March 30, 2020 allowing municipalities within Maryland to postpone their City/Town Elections, if deemed necessary. At this time, the Town's Election continues to be scheduled for Monday, June 1, 2020, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, at Town Hall (3710 Mitchell Street). However, the Town Council will further discuss our options and the possibility of changing the date of the Town Election at the Monday, April 20, 2020, 7:00 pm, Town Council Meeting.

If the Town Council determines that an alternative date or method for our Election is necessary, it will be done so to provide a safe environment for all voters, while encouraging maximum participation by our residents.

The terms of Mayor Tracey Furman, along with Council Members Bridget Hill-Zayat and Duane Rollins, are set to expire June 30, 2020. The Mayor and both Council Members have the option of running for re-election.

If you are interested in running for Mayor or Town Council, nominations are due by 4:00 pm on Monday, May 11, 2020. A Certificate of Nomination, along with the required Financial Disclosure Form, are available on the Town's website: <https://tok.md.gov/town-government/town-elections/>, or you may contact Susan Engels, Clerk – Treasurer, at Susan.Engels@tok.md.gov, or by calling 301-949-2424 for additional information.

*Please be reminded that the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency continues to affect operational hours and the availability of Town staff. If you are interested in filing a Certificate of Nomination, or have questions about the Nominations process, please consider filing or contacting the Town prior to the 4:00 pm deadline on Monday, May 11, 2020.



**STAY
HOME**



**STAY
SAFE**



**STAY
AWARE**



**STAY
CALM**

From the Mayor

As we enter our seventh week since the first COVID-19 emergency order was issued in Maryland on March 5th, we have all witnessed the devastating impact this disease has taken not only on our community, but the world around us. Unfortunately, there is no definitive date on when we can begin to regroup and move forward from this public health pandemic. However, I want to assure everyone that the Town Council, Staff, and I will continue to stay the course by keeping our residents and business community abreast of any imperative updates, cancellations, or postponements of Town relevance.

The State of Maryland, along with Montgomery County, have been holding daily and weekly conference calls since the initial COVID-19 State of Emergency declaration. Within our most recent update from the County (4/9), we have been advised that until test kits are more broadly available to increase the testing pool, the County strongly advises to assume that everyone you come in contact with is potentially an asymptomatic carrier of COVID-19. This means that you should remain cognizant of your surroundings and continue to practice safe social distancing etiquette and wear a mask when out in public in an enclosed environment or at the Farmers Market.

The Town continues to provide important information and resources pertaining to COVID-19 on our website: <https://tok.md.gov/>, and have also recently posted a webinar and powerpoint presentation by Council Member Conor Crimmins and Town resident Tim Stelzig, which helps our small business owners navigate the application process of the SBA Cares Act: <https://tok.md.gov/small-business-administration-webinar/>. Please continue to stay home and stay safe we will get through this public health pandemic together.

Town Collection Services

The Town has temporarily suspended bulk collections in an effort to help our contractor, Ecology Services, maintain a consistent schedule. If the Town determines that we need to amend our existing collection schedule in the coming weeks, we will provide information through our email notification system at TOK.md.gov/town-government/town-staff and our website [TOK.md.gov](https://tok.md.gov).

Town Operational Hours

The Town's operational hours have been modified to 9:00 am – 3:00 pm (Monday – Friday). While Town Hall remains closed to public access during this time, the Town staff is still available to answer any concerns or questions the community may have. We encourage you to send an online Service Request, at [TOK.md.gov/service-request](https://tok.md.gov/service-request) or for quicker response, you may email a staff member directly through TOK.md.gov/town-government/town-staff. You may also contact Town Hall by calling 301-949-2424; however, Town staff will be telecommuting during the Stay at Home order. Mayor Furman is available by calling 301-442-4507, if you have a Town emergency. Any changes to the Town's modified operational hours will be provided through our email notification system and on the Town's website at [TOK.md.gov](https://tok.md.gov).

Town Parks

The Town has removed the basketball rims from all backboards on public property within the corporate limits of the Town of Kensington to further prevent large gatherings. While our Parks will remain open, we ask that park visitors refrain from using playground equipment and avoid contact with surfaces that are frequently touched by other people and from participating in activities involving physical contact or sharing of equipment. This policy is at the recommendation of Montgomery Parks.



STAY HOME



STAY SAFE



STAY AWARE



STAY CALM

COVID-19 Resources

COVID-19 Resources

The list of resources below will help you find answers to your most important questions about COVID-19 and how it affects your life and the world around you.
Please be safe, healthy, stay home, and keep washing your hands.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Maryland Department of Health
COVID-19 Information Portal
Frequently Asked Questions

GOVERNOR HOGAN
Governor's Orders & Guidance
Governor's Executive Order

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Department of Health & Human Services

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECREATION & VOLUNTEER
Montgomery County Parks
Maryland Park Service

BUSINESS
What is Considered an Essential Business
Montgomery County Resources
Business Fact Sheet

TOWN OF KENSINGTON
COVID-19 Operational Information
Subscribe to TOK News

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
All Things Coronavirus Resources
How Marylanders Can Help
NIH's Winter Public Health Information
Unemployment Assistance

BE SAFE, BE SMART

In addition to staying healthy, be aware of scams regarding COVID-19. Please be wary of fake cures, malicious emails and websites, and requests for donations. Check the sources before you react.

We know you have concerns about COVID-19. The Town compiled a list of resources to help you find answers to your most important questions. Visit TOK.md.gov/covid-19-resources for a clickable PDF.

Restaurants & Shops

Thank you for your continued support of Kensington Merchants & Restaurants during these challenging times. Many Restaurants Offer Takeout & Delivery. Many shops offer virtual shopping, curbside pick-up or delivery.



TOK.md.gov/restaurant-updates

TOK.md.gov/shop-updates

Creating a Community Album

Kensington neighbors are chalking their sidewalks and driveways to send positive messages to neighbors and friends and to show gratitude to the many heroes that are working the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic.

Others have placed stuffed bears in windows, porches, trees and parked cars. As children walk with an adult, they play scavenger hunt and try to spot as many as they can.

And, while staying in place, many residents have taken up a new craft, planted a garden, or set up an in-home gymnasium.

Send us your photos of ways that you are enjoying life while practicing social distancing. We'll create a Community Album for the Town website and Facebook page. Send your photo/story to Kariann.zentz@tok.md.gov.

Ordinance

The Mayor and Town Council introduced Budget Ordinance No. O-02-2020 at the March 9, 2020 Town Council Meeting for the 2020-2021 (FY21) Fiscal Year. The Public Hearing has been scheduled for Monday, April 13, 2020, 7:00 pm.

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE AND ADOPT THE FISCAL YEAR 2020 – 2021 (FY21) BUDGET AND TO LEVY A TAX ON CERTAIN REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF §6-203 OF THE TAXPROPERTY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AS AMENDED.

The proposed Budget Ordinance (FY21) may be viewed by contacting the Town at 301-949-2424; Town@tok.md.gov or online at the following link: tok.md.gov/towngovernment/town-budget

The Mayor and Town Council will introduce Ordinance No. O-03-2020 at the April 20, 2020 Town Council Meeting. The Public Hearing will be scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2020, 7:00 pm.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL TO AMEND CHAPTER II, "GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION", ARTICLE 2, "ELECTIONS", SECTION 2-202, "DISTRIBUTION OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS", OF THE TOWN OF KENSINGTON CODE TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 4-108, "ABSENTEE VOTING", OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AS AMENDED.

The proposed Ordinance (No. O-03-2020) will be available for review within the Agenda Documents for April 20, 2020, beginning Friday, April 17, 2020 at the following link: tok.md.gov/town-government/council-meetings



The Maryland Department of Agriculture considers farmers markets an essential business and an important source of food for many Marylanders. The department is asking that farmers markets remain open during the current state of emergency.

Food Vendors

Baked Goods & Sweets
Cheeses & Eggs
Fruits & Vegetables & Mushrooms
Plants & Flowers
Prepared Foods
Seafood & Meats
Coffee & Juice
Condiments & Seasonings
and more!

Every Saturday 9am-1pm
Howard Avenue Train Station
[ExploreKensington.com/farmers-market](https://www.explorekensington.com/farmers-market)

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3710 Mitchell Street Office: 301.949.2424
Kensington, MD 20895 [TOK.md.gov](https://www.tok.md.gov)

To: