

Board of County Commissioners

C. Richard Weaver, President
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Stephen A. Wantz, Secretary
Doug Howard
Richard S. Rothschild



Carroll County Government

225 North Center Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157
410-386-2043; 1-888-302-8978
fax 410-386-2485
MD Relay 711/800-735-2258

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Douglas Brown
410-386-2296

COOLING CENTERS OPENING

[July 19, 2017] – Forecasters are anticipating excessive heat with heat indices nearing 100 degrees for our area from **Thursday afternoon July 20 through Sunday July 23**. Because of the anticipated high temperatures, the Carroll County Department of Citizen Services and the Carroll County Public Library System will operate cooling centers around the county. Residents who are vulnerable to extreme heat and who do not have air conditioning in their homes are encouraged to cool off in any of the following locations until the close of business:

Cooling centers are open during regular business hours at [County Senior Centers](#) and the [Department of Citizen Services](#).

- Citizen Services Office Building, 10 Distillery Drive, Westminster (8 AM - 5 PM, Mon. - Fri)
- Mount Airy Senior and Community Center, 703 Ridge Avenue, Mount Airy (8 AM - 4:30 PM, Mon. - Fri)
- North Carroll Senior and Community Center, 2328 Hanover Pike, Hampstead (8 AM - 4:30 PM, Mon. - Fri)
- South Carroll Senior and Community Center, 5928 Mineral Hill Road, Eldersburg (8 AM - 4:30 PM, Mon. - Fri)
- Taneytown Senior and Community Center, 220 Roberts Mill Road, Taneytown (8 AM - 4:30 PM, Mon. - Fri)
- Westminster Senior and Community Center, 125 Stoner Ave., Westminster (8 AM - 4:30 PM, Mon. - Fri)

All branches of the [Carroll County Public Library System](#) will also be open as cooling centers during regular business hours, Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM – 8:45 PM; Friday and Saturday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. **Both the Eldersburg and Westminster branches are also open on Sunday from 1:00-5:00 PM.**

- Eldersburg Branch, 6400 Hemlock Drive, Eldersburg (also open Sunday from 1:00 – 5:00 PM)
- Finksburg Branch, 2265 Old Westminster Pike, Finksburg
- Mt. Airy Branch, 705 Ridge Avenue, Mt. Airy
- North Carroll Branch, 2255 Hanover Pike, Hampstead
- Taneytown Branch, 10 Grand Drive, Taneytown
- Westminster Branch, 50 East Main Street, Westminster (also open Sunday from 1:00 – 5:00 PM)

Access to air conditioning and water will be available at all of the cooling centers.

Additional options for keeping cool are available during the day:

- [On Our Own](#) (410-751-6600) provides a community center at 265 East Main Street, Westminster. Hours vary and are available at <http://www.onourownofcarrollcounty.org/>.
- Stores, malls, restaurants, churches, or the homes of friends and family.
- Information about cooling centers elsewhere in Maryland is available from the [MD Office of Preparedness & Response](#).

Carroll County Emergency Management offers the following safety tips for when temperatures and humidity are high:

- Slow down. Strenuous activities should be reduced or rescheduled for the coolest times of day.
- Wear loose, lightweight, and light colored clothing.
- Eat less protein and more fruits and vegetables, and drink plenty of water.
- Stay in air-conditioned buildings or rooms, and limit time outside if possible.
- **Check up on neighbors** who may be more vulnerable to hot weather.
- **NEVER** leave a child, pet, or elderly person alone in a car, even for a minute. This can quickly cause heatstroke and even death. If you see a child, elderly person, or pet alone in a car, call 911.

For more information, visit the Carroll County Health Department website: <http://cchd.maryland.gov/stay-safe-in-the-heat/>

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CARROLL COUNTY

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.