



410-313-3600 / ECFloodRecovery@HowardCountymd.gov

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Executive Kittleman announces details for five-day access to Ellicott City's Main Street

ELLICOTT CITY, MD – Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman today announced detailed plans for residents, merchants and building owners to gain extended dawn to dusk access to Ellicott City's Main Street, beginning later this week.

From Thursday, Aug. 18 through Monday, Aug. 22, the County has established a window from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day for those needing to clean out, pack up and move out of their residences and businesses. Building owners can also use this time to bring in contractors to begin working on a recovery plan or for emergency remediation. However, this access is not intended to be used for rebuilding and no media access will be permitted.

Cars, vans, pickups and small box trucks will be allowed to enter the Main Street area for the retrieval of larger items and belongings. Those planning to bring a vehicle must call 410-313-2900 to have access approved and scheduled. Vehicles will be scheduled in six-hour blocks of time. Those accessing properties will be allowed to make multiple visits during the five-day period.

County law enforcement will be on-site providing traffic control and directing vehicles to the most safe, convenient and accessible parking spots. Drivers should use caution, limiting their speed to 5 miles per hour or less. Traffic will be one-way, eastbound only, and vehicles will be allowed to exit onto Old Columbia Pike or at the foot of Main Street.

"This is a crucial window of time for those affected to remove their belongings," said Kittleman. "It is the longest period of access since the storm hit on July 30, and the first time we are allowing people to bring larger vehicles onto Main Street. We appreciate their patience as we've been continuing to make significant repairs to ensure public safety."

Credentialing and staging will begin at 7 a.m. at the following locations:

Thursday, Aug. 18; Friday, August 19 and Monday, August 22:

- St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 3695 Rogers Avenue, Ellicott City

Saturday, Aug. 20 and Sunday, Aug. 21:

- George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City

Property owners, businesses and residents will be allowed to bring an unlimited number of family, friends and contractors to assist. All must be credentialed and be at least 18 years of age (or 16 years old and accompanied by a parent or guardian) to gain access to the site. Vehicles from the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks will provide transportation for those people assisting in the cleanup.

Roll-off dumpsters will be strategically located throughout Main Street for those still disposing of debris.

The community-provided supply truck will be located at each day's specific check-in/staging location, distributing cleaning supplies. The hours for this truck will be:

- Thursday 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Friday 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Saturday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Sunday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Monday 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

After this five-day window, Main Street will be closed for three weeks to allow county public works crews and other utility workers the time they need to complete critical work with the goal of reopening Main Street to pedestrian traffic, hopefully around Sept. 16.

Those planning to participate in the cleanup should wear solid, closed-toe footwear (preferably an over-the-ankle work boot or hiking boot), long-sleeved shirts, long pants, goggles, and non-porous and protective gloves. It is suggested they also use N95 respirator masks for exposure to mold-contamination or other hazards and bring a flashlight.

Throughout the cleanup, participants are encouraged to take frequent 10 minute breaks to rest and rehydrate.

Additionally, once inside their buildings, people are requested to turn on the water and let it run for 15 minutes.

For more information or assistance, please call 410-313-2900 and continue to visit the recovery resource page at www.ECfloodrecovery.org.

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