

Staying Safe in Cold Weather

The cold weather has returned. Temperatures over the next several days will drop into the 20s with winds making it feel like single digits.

For those needing a warm place to stay, **CONTACT [GRASSROOTS CRISIS INTERVENTION](#) at 410-531-6677.**

WARMING CENTERS are available during normal operating hours at these locations:

[50+ Centers](#)

50+ Center	Location	Hours	Phone Number
Bain Center	5470 Ruth Keeton Way Columbia, MD 21044	M-W, F: 8:30a,-4:30pm; Th: 8:30am-8:30pm	410-313-7213 (voice/relay)
East Columbia	6600 Cradlerock Way Columbia, MD 21045	M,W: 9am-8:30pm; T,Th: 9am-4:30pm; F: 9am-4pm	410-313-7680 (voice/relay)
Elkridge	6540 Washington Blvd. Elkridge, MD 21075	M-F: 8:30am-4:30pm	410-313-4930
Ellicott City	9401 Frederick Rd. Ellicott City, MD 21043	M-F: 8:30am-4:30pm	410-313-1400
Longwood	6150 Foreland Garth Columbia, MD 21045	T: 9am-2pm; W: 9am-3pm	410-313-7217
Glenwood	2400 Route 97 Cooksville, MD 21723	M-F: 8:30am-4:30pm	410-313-5440
North Laurel	9411 Whiskey Bottom Rd. Laurel, MD 20723	M-F: 9am-4pm	410-313-0380

[Howard County Public Libraries](#)

Library Branch	Location	Hours	Phone Number
Central Branch	10375 Little Patuxent Pkwy. Columbia, MD 21044	M-Th: 10am-9pm; F-Sat: 10am-6pm; Sun: 1pm-5pm	410-313-7800
Miller Branch	9421 Frederick Rd. Ellicott City, MD 21042	M-Th: 10am-9pm; F-Sat: 10am-6pm; Sun: 1pm-5pm	410-313-1950
Savage Branch	9525 Durness Ln. Laurel, MD 20723	M-Th: 10am-9pm; F-Sat: 10am-6pm; Sun: 1pm-5pm	410-313-0760
Glenwood Branch	2350 Route 97 Cooksville, MD 21723	M-Th: 10am-9pm; F-Sat: 10am-6pm; Sun: 1pm-5pm	410-313-5577

Community Centers (Also open on the weekends)

Community Center	Location	Hours	Phone Number
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North Laurel Community Center	9411 Whiskey Bottom Rd. Laurel, MD 20723	M-Sat: 8am-9pm; Sun: 9am-6pm	410-313-0390
Gary J. Arthur Community Center	2400 Route 97 Cooksville, MD 21723	M-Sat: 8am-9pm; Sun: 9am-6pm	410-313-4840
Roger Carter Community Center	3000 Milltowne Dr. Ellicott City, MD 21043	M-F: 6am-10pm; Sat: 7am-10pm; Sun: 7am-9pm	410-313-2764

[The Mall in Columbia](#)

The Mall in Columbia	10300 Little Patuxent Pkwy. Columbia, MD 21044	M: 10am-7pm; T-Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-6pm	410-730-3300
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To protect yourself from the cold:

- Cover your head and wear several layers of lightweight, loose-fitting clothing. The air between the layers acts as insulation to keep you warmer.
- Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect lungs from direct cold air. Cover your ears and the lower part of your face.
- Wear mittens rather than fingered gloves. The close contact of fingers helps keep your hands warm.
- Wear warm leg coverings and heavy socks, or two pairs of lightweight socks.
- If you are in need of shelter, call Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center at (410) 531-6677.
- Be alert to other common winter hazards, such as carbon monoxide (CO) and injuries from heat sources. CO is produced by small gasoline engines, stoves, generators, lanterns and gas ranges, or by burning charcoal and wood.

This colorless, odorless gas can cause severe illness and death. Go to www.cdc.gov/features/copoisoning/ for CO poisoning prevention tips.

- Do not forget about pets. The American Veterinary Medical Association has great tips for all of our four-legged family members. Visit www.avma.org for more information.
- Vehicles should contain items such as heavy blankets, water, nonperishable food, a flashlight and a snow shovel.

More information about cold weather preparedness may be found at:

emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/
