

**Office of the County Executive**

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 **Harford County Opens Cooling Centers**

 **at Volunteer Fire Stations**

(Bel Air, MD) - - With heat index values expected to reach nearly 105 degrees on Sunday, July 1, the Bel Air Volunteer Fire Company and Abingdon Volunteer Fire Company will open their doors to the public to assist Harford County Government serving as cooling stations for those needing brief relief from the heat.

Both the Bel Air and Abingdon Volunteer Fire Company’s will be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 1, 2012.

“We appreciate the support of both Bel Air and Abingdon Volunteer Fire Companies serving as a temporary shelter for those citizens who may need a brief respite from the heat on Sunday,” County Executive David R. Craig stated. “This is a great gesture of service to the community these two fine fire service organizations are making for the people they serve”, Craig remarked.

The Bel Air Volunteer Fire Company is located at 109 South Hickory Avenue in Bel Air. The Abingdon Volunteer Fire Company is located at 3306 Abingdon Road in Abingdon.

 The Harford County Health Department recommends that individuals at special risk should stay indoors on particularly hot and humid days, especially when there is an air pollution alert in effect. People without fans or air conditions should go to places such as shopping malls, movie theaters or designated cooling centers.

 For additional information regarding heat health issues and preventive measures visit the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Extreme Heat website at <http://dhmh.maryland.gov/extremeheat/SitePages/Home.aspx>. or the Harford County Division of Emergency Operations at [www.harfordpublicsafety.org](http://www.harfordpublicsafety.org).

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