

PRINCE FREDERICK VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD

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# THE WATCH OFFICE

Chief Marquis Smith

March 20, 2020



Company 4 is ready to continue serving the public during the COVID-19 crisis

The leadership of the Prince Frederick Volunteer Rescue Squad is working closely with Calvert County Government officials following guidelines to keep our members safe and ready to respond.

In his first year as Chief, Marquis Smith is leading the effort to maintain the readiness of the duty crews and mitigating the risks involved when facing the possibility of exposure to COVID-19. In close partnership with President Rawlings, who has been in communication with leaders of other Calvert County Fire Rescue EMS departments along with Calvert's Department of Public Safety, a Plan of Action has been designed and implemented to ensure the best possible outcomes. One of the steps taken to help maintain social distancing while maintaining the capabilities to communicate with membership is the departmental use of the application GoToMeeting, that allows groups to communicate via video conferencing in real-time.

Additionally, our building has been placed under an "access limited status." This means, during this COVID-19 event, only members are allowed in the building. Friends, family members including children, contractors, and the general public will be denied access to the inside of Co 4. All Public relations/ fundraising events are canceled or postponed until further notice. As President Rawlings stated, "My main concern is keeping the membership and public safe until this blows over." President Rawlings and Chief Smith have also approved the purchase of food and supplies to keep our first responders well-nourished and comfortable while this crisis is impacting our normal daily life and routines for the foreseeable future.

**RESILIENCY:** The process of adapting well in the face of adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats or significant sources of stress.

## PFVRS is operating under enhanced isolation practices.

Written by Donna Hayes-Wester Photo credit: Beckie Zalc-Bradford

Should you require emergency care, you can expect our ambulance crew to maintain everyone's safety by practicing appropriate isolation

precautions. Until further notice, only the patient, and no other passengers will be allowed to travel in the ambulance to the hospital.

In addition, per Calvert Health, NO visitors (with few exceptions) will be permitted inside the medical center.



PPE modeled by Aide Adam Hogenson

What can you expect from Co 4 if we respond to your emergency during the COVID-19 crisis?

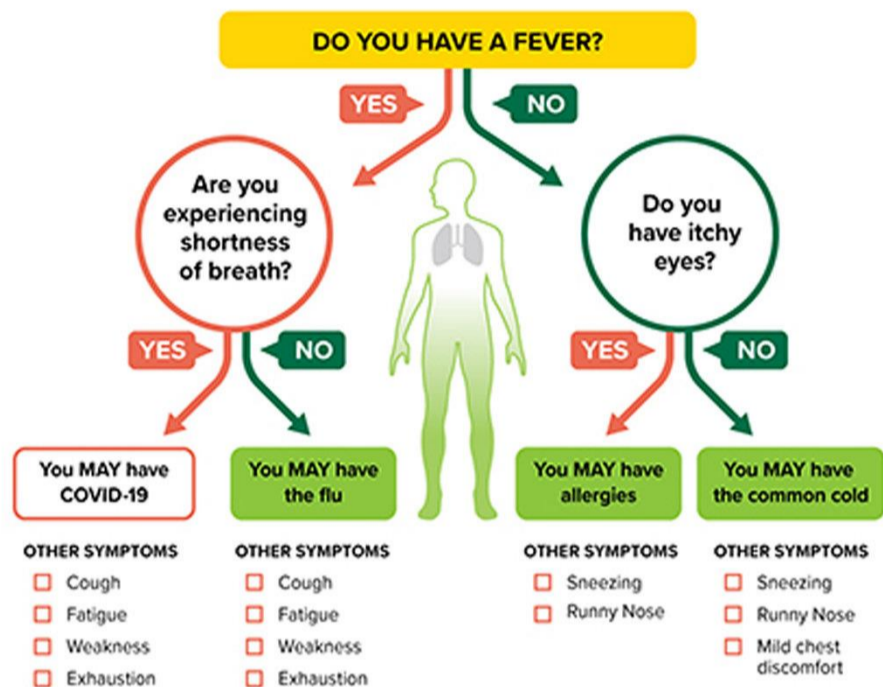
## Flu vs. Allergies vs. COVID-19

## ***IF YOU FEEL SICK***

If you have shortness of breath or fever or cough, or if you had recent contact with someone who had shortness of breath or fever or cough, please tell a nurse, doctor or other healthcare professional as soon as possible. Contact your provider before your arrival to the provider's office, or emergency room and tell them your symptoms.

- In rare cases, the virus can lead to severe respiratory problems, kidney failure or death, so contact your doctor promptly if you have symptoms.

(hopkinsmedicine.org *Coronavirus at a glance 2020*)



**These are COMMON SYMPTOMS,  
which may vary from person to person.  
Only a doctor can give you a diagnosis.**

Information graphic courtesy of The University of Alabama at Birmingham