



ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT **COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY**
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NEWS RELEASE *for Immediate Release*

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March 16, 2026, 12:50 p.m.

St. Mary's County Government Announces Operations Changes for March 16
STS Service Suspended, Early Program Closures & Liberal Leave in Effect

LEONARDTOWN, MD – St. Mary's County, Maryland is currently under a [Tornado Watch](#) until 7 p.m. on March 16, 2026. The most **severe weather is anticipated between 3 – 7 p.m.** for our area. A powerful cold front will bring a squall line into the area, bringing damaging wind gusts and large hail with the possibility of tornados. **Wind gusts may be as high as 70 – 80 mph.** This brings the potential to cause significant tree and power line damage, which could lead to extended power outages.

Due to anticipated inclement weather, St. Mary's County Government (SMCG) is announcing the following **operations changes for Monday, March 16, 2026:**

Early Closures:

- The St. Mary's County Health Department (*closed at noon*)
- Senior Activity Centers (Garvey, Loffler & Northern; *closing at 1 p.m.; evening programs at Garvey are canceled*)
- Department of Recreation & Parks programs, facilities, museums, and golf course (*closing at 1:30 p.m.*)
- The St. Mary's County Libraries (*closing at 2 p.m.*)

Temporary Service Suspension: The **St. Mary's Transit System (STS)** will suspend services at **2 p.m.** STS anticipates resuming service at approximately 6 p.m., where conditions permit. Service restoration will be announced and is contingent upon wind speeds and overall weather conditions reaching levels that allow safe operation.

Please note that St. Mary's County Government and MetCom **administrative offices remain open** with **liberal leave** in effect for employees.

Further operational updates will be announced as needed.

Community members are encouraged to use the following resources during severe weather:

- **Check for local road closures** at: www.stmaryscountymd.gov/RoadClosures
- **Report non-emergency issues**, such as downed trees via our 311 system at: www.stmaryscountymd.gov/SM311
- **Report power outages** to SMECO at: www.smeco.coop/Outages
- Visit www.stmaryscountymd.gov/Prepare for additional preparedness tips

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