

For Immediate Release – County of Berks Area Agency on Aging – County Statement

Berks County Senior Centers Available as Cooling Sites During Ongoing Heat Wave

Reading, PA— 06/29/2026 — With temperatures soaring and dangerous heat index levels expected to continue, the Berks County Area Agency on Aging is encouraging older adults to take advantage of the County’s senior centers as designated cooling locations.

“Our senior centers are safe, comfortable, air-conditioned spaces where older adults can cool down, stay hydrated, and connect with others,” says Katie Cathmark, Deputy Director for the Agency.

“Extreme heat can be particularly dangerous for older adults, and no one should feel they have to face this weather alone. Staying cool is not just about comfort; it’s about safety. We encourage everyone to help spread the word and make sure vulnerable residents know they have a place to go.”

Berks County Senior Centers

BERKS ENCORE CENTERS

Douglasville – 2144 Weavertown Rd, Douglasville, PA, 19518

Fleetwood – 14432 Kutztown Rd, Fleetwood, PA, 19522

Mifflin – 30 Liberty Street, Shillington, PA, 19607

Reading – 40 North 9th Street, Reading,, PA 19601

Strausstown – 44 East Avenue, Strausstown, PA, 19559

Wernersville – 350 Sportsman Rd, Wernersville State Hospital, Wernersville, PA, 19565

CASA DE LA AMISTAD

25 North 2nd Street, Reading, PA, 19601

THE CENTER AT SPRING STREET

200 West Spring Street, Boyertown, PA, 19512

All Berks County senior centers are open during normal business hours, offering:

- Cool, climate controlled indoor space
- Access to drinking water and hydration stations
- Social activities and staff support
- Information on heat safety resources and assistance programs

The National Weather Service warns that prolonged heat significantly increases the risk of heat exhaustion and heat stroke, particularly when nighttime temperatures remain high. Older adults, individuals with chronic health conditions, and those without access to reliable cooling should take special precautions.

Residents are urged to:

- Visit a local senior center to cool down
- Check on older neighbors, relatives, and community members
- Stay hydrated and avoid outdoor activity during peak heat

Free Fans for Seniors:

Available for individuals over 60. They can be picked up at our office located at:
400 E. Wyomissing Blvd
Mohnton, PA 19540

If you or someone you know needs a safe place to cool off, please contact the Berks County Area Agency on Aging at 610 478 6500 or visit www.berksaging.org.

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