



5-22-2020 UPDATE from the Library Director ON COVID-19

Governor Whitmer has issued Executive Order 2020-100: Amending certain previously issued executive orders to clarify their duration. This extends Michigan's Safer at Home order, and it specifically keeps libraries **closed through June 12, 2020**. At this time, we cannot set a definite opening date for SDL.

Though we are anxious to get back to the library building, we know that safety is most important, so we will reopen the building when we can safely prepare to do so. To achieve this, we have made plans for reopening in stages that are based on guidelines from the State of Michigan and the Washtenaw County Health Department.

When staff are able to return to the building, we will begin making changes that are necessary to allow public interactions in a safe manner. In the meantime, library staff continue to work from home on many things including ordering library materials, preparing virtual programs, and planning for the eventual reopening of the Library.

When we first open the building for public access, only a small number of people will be allowed in the building at once, and everyone entering the building will be required to wear face masks. Our in-person services will be limited to picking up materials that have been reserved in advance. Reserves may be requested most easily through the library catalog and will also be accepted by email and phone. You will be notified when you can pick up your reserved items.

We will also have staff available to answer questions by phone or email. Then as conditions improve, we will begin to open up other parts of the building for more in-person services as safe measures allow. We expect that visits to the Library will look very different for quite a while. At this time, we cannot be certain about any dates or how long any of the new service stages will be in effect.

Our annual Summer Reading Program is set to begin early in June, and it will be all online. Watch our website: <https://www.salinelibrary.org/> for details about how you can sign up for the program, and check the events calendar: <http://salinelibrary.evanced.info/signup/Calendar> to see what fun things will be coming up for all ages.

We know that the closure of the library building has been difficult for many people, and we wish that we could be there with all of you, but we must do what is best for everyone to stay healthy. Though the building is closed, the virtual SDL that is always open through our website offers so many great digital resources. Take advantage of these with your SDL card. If you need a library card, apply online here: <https://www.salinelibrary.org/get-a-card/> If you have any questions, reach out to library staff here: <https://www.salinelibrary.org/contact-us/>

We miss seeing you, and until we meet again in the library building, we wish you all the best. Stay safe!