



WVLS will send an email on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9 a.m., featuring new developments for our member libraries related to COVID-19.

1) What's New on the [WVLS COVID-19 webpage](#)

- Status of Member Libraries (curbside services)
- Staying Together Discussion Recording(4/24) and Transcript
- Correction from 4/24: **Item due dates** during the closure have been extended to **6/1/2020** a report of extensions will be shared with you.

2) Curbside Services Webinar on Tuesday, April 28; No “Staying Together” Discussion

Join panelists Angela Noel (Brodhead Public Library), Linda Pierschalla (Cedarburg Public Library), Amanda Hegge (Whitehall Public Library), Angie Bodzislaw (Spooner Memorial Library) to hear best practices around curbside library service. The panel will discuss procedures and their experiences in planning and providing library materials in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This will be followed by a Q&A with the panel. All attendees will be muted to ensure the best possible audio quality. This webinar will take place on Tuesday, April 28 from 1:00-2:30.

The webinar will be recorded and made available as soon as possible once it has concluded.

[Read more.](#)

Connection information via Microsoft Teams Meeting

+1 608-620-9781 United States, Madison (Toll)

Conference ID: 716 527 820#

3) “Staying Together” This Week - FRIDAY ONLY

Because of the Curbside Services webinar tomorrow at 1 p.m., the next Staying Together Discussion is **Friday, May 1 at 10 a.m.**

Phone: +1.888.748.9073 or +1.844.540.8065 (only one number is needed to join)

Meeting ID: 715 3972 9713 9731

Or Sign-in via Computer: <https://bluejeans.com/715397297139731>

[Recording from Friday, April 24.](#)

4) Guidelines for Reopening Wisconsin Public Libraries Released

The Department of Public Instruction (DPI), in collaboration with leaders from all 16 Wisconsin regional library systems that represent all 380 public libraries, have developed general guidelines, clarification, and best practices for local libraries to eventually reopen to the public. The principles of personal safety, risk mitigation, transparency, and capacity guide the ongoing development and application of these guidelines.

Every community in Wisconsin is unique and all library decisions are made by local library boards. Each library and system will determine its level of physical item service, handling, and delivery based upon its ability to abide by public health protocols for staff and patrons. [Read more.](#)

5) WISCAT Update and User Group Meeting (Gail Murray)

We hope all is well with all of you. We are looking forward to our User Group Meeting on May 7, and wanted to provide you with a couple updates in the meantime:

- While the governor has given the OK to curbside pickup for libraries, SCLS's statewide delivery is still suspended. We do not yet know when statewide delivery will resume, and as a result we are not expecting WISCAT to be open for requesting in the near future.
- Some libraries have received ILL materials prior to the shutdown that are now overdue, but have not yet been loaned out to patrons. Libraries in this situation may wish to contact the lender for information on how they would like the material handled.
- While statewide delivery is not operational, some local library delivery services may be picking back up at this time. We understand that without use of WISCAT, some libraries may not have a means of borrowing/lending with nearby libraries on their local delivery route if they are not part of the same shared ILS. WISCAT libraries in this situation are encouraged to contact the WISCAT team at dpirlill@dpi.wi.gov to discuss options.

- Many of you set your library on Holiday in WISCAT until the end of April. Please check your Holiday List in your Participant Record to ensure that your holiday dates have not elapsed.

We are looking forward to connecting with you at the User Group Meeting on Thursday, May 7 from 10:30 - 11:30 am.

To Join: [+1 608-620-9781](tel:+16086209781) United States, Madison (Toll) Conference ID: 561 395 367#

6) Shields/Barriers Available from Local Company

There is a company in Merrill making shields and barriers. Attached is a design for trying to minimize customer service interaction virus exposure once your library lobbies are open to the public.

Please direct inquiries to Nick Wendt, Plant Manager at Merrill Tool & Water Jet, LLC
715-536-9916.

7) Investment in Online Reading Platform and Mobile App for Wisconsin Libraries

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Division for Libraries and Technology is supporting libraries and library users by launching a new statewide online reading challenge platform and mobile app to support summer library programming in 2020 and beyond. The Division will award a discretionary grant for nearly \$327,000 to the Wisconsin Valley Library Service to contract with Beanstack on behalf of Wisconsin public libraries. Over the course of three years, this statewide procurement will save over \$761,000 when compared to local libraries procuring this service individually. The contract will run through 2023. [Read more.](#)