



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)
- Rhinelander Closure PSA, (under Curbside/Quarantine)
- Updated Sierra Documents (under V-Cat, Holds)

**2) Courier Updates**

In compliance with the Governor Ever's Safer at Home Orders, the WVLS courier service closed from March 16-April 24, and reopened this week for minimal service until May 26. During yesterday's public library system director discussion with the Division for Libraries and Technology Team, WVLS learned that the other Wisconsin systems are offering:

- No courier service yet (Bridges Library System, South Central Library System)
- One delivery to member libraries each week (IFLS Library System, Milwaukee County Federated Library System, Nicolet Federated Library System, Outagamie-Waupaca Library System)
- Two deliveries a week (Monarch Library System, Winding Rivers Library System, Winnefox Library System)

If your library is receiving limited courier, you likely noticed tape on the bins from Waltco sort that say "over 72 hours." Remember, these are items that have been sitting at the Waltco terminal for several weeks, before March 16. In the coming weeks, Waltco will list the date on the bin that indicates the last time it was handled before being delivered. WVLS strongly encourages libraries to handle all items received, whether in a delivery bin or through a book

drop, the same way. Whatever the amount of time your library is using to quarantine items should also apply to items received via courier.

WVLS will be monitoring courier service volume at Waltco and at member libraries in the upcoming weeks. We will be mindful of member libraries' volume of returns in bins and book drops, as well as their capacity (staff and space) to quarantine items, as modifications to courier service are considered. Please keep in touch, and send any courier-related questions or concerns to [courier@wvls.org](mailto:courier@wvls.org).

### **Courier Checking in Items**

After the appropriate quarantine of 24-72 hours, WVLS recommends that you check-in items from courier bins as you usually would to allow incoming items to fill holds for pickup at your location.

When checking in items normally, items returned in courier to your library may fill holds at other locations. Please set aside any items checked in from courier bins that result in transit to other locations for future delivery. Do not place these items in transit at this time.

The Do Not Fulfill Holds tool should be used for items returned to your library, but not for the incoming items in courier bins.

There are updated Sierra First Steps and Covid-19 Check-in Documents on the WVLS COVID-19 Webpage. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Katie.

### **Makerspaces**

If you currently have a Makerspace item checked out from WVLS, please do not send it back in the courier until the WVLS office reopens. Thank you!

### **3) Ancestry Limited Edition Extended**

Home access to Ancestry Library Edition has been extended to May 31. ProQuest and Ancestry will re-evaluate this offering monthly. Please contact [help@librarieswin.org](mailto:help@librarieswin.org) with questions and concerns about accessing Ancestry Library Edition at home.

#### 4) “Staying Together” This Week

The next Staying Together Discussion is **Friday, May 1 at 10 a.m.** We will continue to talk about curbside services, including take-aways from the Tuesday webinar and updates from libraries who started curbside service this week.

**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>

#### 5) WLA Updates

- The WLA Programming Committee is now accepting proposals for the 2020 WLA annual conference, with a deadline extension to May 29! The conference will be held in Green Bay from October 27-30 at the KI Convention Center. The Conference already boasts a fantastic lineup of keynote speakers, including Sarah Vowell, Stephen Franck and Nigel Poor. Now we invite you to share your expertise and experiences with your colleagues this October.

In every library, large and small, there is a story to tell. Come tell your story at the WLA Conference and join trustees, academics, public librarians, special librarians, paraprofessionals and more as we grow together as a profession. This year’s theme is Storytelling. [Submit your proposal here.](#)

- Last week, WLA Executive Director, Plumer Lovelace, and the WLA President, Sherry Machones sent out a brief update. [Read more.](#)

#### 6) Grants Available

- The Wisconsin Humanities Council is providing rapid-response funding to nonprofit humanities and cultural organizations that are facing financial hardship resulting from the COVID-19 coronavirus. These grants are funded by the federal CARES Act via the National Endowment for the Humanities. Grants of up to \$10,000 are offered to nonprofit organizations across Wisconsin that provide humanities programming as a significant part of their mission and that are facing financial hardship due to COVID-19. [Read more.](#)

- The Public Library Association (PLA) and Microsoft Corp. are working together to increase access to technology in rural communities during the COVID-19 crisis. In April 2020, Microsoft will provide \$120,000 to help public libraries in rural communities with hardware and support to install public WiFi access points on or near library grounds.

Libraries have been and continue to be essential to the nation's digital safety net, connecting communities to the internet and teaching computer skills. The American Library Association (ALA) has recommended that libraries can and should leave their WiFi networks on even when their buildings are closed wherever possible. On March 25, 2020, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a [public notice](#) confirming community use of E-rate supported WiFi networks. [Read more.](#)