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 WVLS Member Libraries
- Link to "Guidelines for Reopening Timeline" (top left column)
- For Patrons: Training Video and Documents (Word and PDF) on [Searching for Local Items and Placing Holds for Curbside](#) (Both the video and documents are under "Training Resources").

2) **Waltco Date Tags and Request for Libraries**

Waltco has purchased a price tag gun to indicate the date that a bin was sorted and closed. You will [start to see these tags](#) the week of May 11.

Waltco is also asking libraries to indicate on the top or side of the bins when it was last sorted and closed. This can be noted with masking tape, duct tape, a post-it note with tape - just as long as the date is easy to read. Please email courier@wvls.org if you have any questions.

3) **"Staying Together" Continues Next Week**

Due to the V-Cat Council meeting and Guidelines for Reopening webinar yesterday, there will not be a "Staying Together" COVID-19 Discussion held today. The next discussion will be on Wednesday, May 13 at 1 p.m.

4) **Webinar: Unemployment Insurance Basics: Assisting Library Patrons**

Monday, May 18; 10 - 11 a.m.

[Login here,](#) no registration necessary. Sorry there is no option to call in via phone.

The way Wisconsinites sign up for and apply for unemployment is changing rapidly, sometimes multiple times a day. As such, the DPI Public Library Team is repeating the Unemployment Insurance webinar originally given on April 27, 2020. Ann Astin will include up-to-the-moment tips. This webinar does not have a seat capacity so everyone will be able to access it. It will be recorded and captioned, as well.

5)   WISCAT 101 Training

There will be a WISCAT 101 session via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, May 20th from 2 pm-3 pm. Watch for the sign up link in a future Update to join the training. There will be an option in the form to indicate if you would like to attend but can't make that date/time.

The recording from Thursday's User Group meeting will be available soon.

6)   WTBBL To Resume Services in Limited Capacity

The Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library (WTBBL) will resume services in a limited capacity on Monday, May 11. Books will be mailed out as early as Tuesday, May 12. WTBBL reference services will be available beginning Monday, May 18, and calls will be answered between the hours of 1:00 – 4:50 p.m. (You may call and leave a brief message before 1:00 p.m.) Please be aware that you may experience a longer wait time when you call as we expect higher call volumes. You may continue sending emails to wtbbl@milwaukee.gov. Normal reference hours of 9:00 a.m. – 4:50 p.m. will resume by Tuesday, May 26.

7) Apply for $2,000 to Expand Workforce Programming

The COVID-19 crisis has forced libraries to pivot into virtual services in lieu of face-to-face programming. Recognizing the critical role libraries play in supporting America's workforce when millions file for unemployment, *Libraries Lead with Digital Skills* has expanded its initiative to offer public libraries $2,000 to provide virtual programming, outreach, and education to address the digital skills gaps of job seekers, entrepreneurs, and small businesses.

Who should apply? Public libraries that want to start virtual digital skills programs or those that are interested in testing out new resources.

Program benefits: $2,000 in funding plus marketing support, a community of practice, and advocacy tools for libraries offering virtual programs that are geared toward job seekers, small businesses, and entrepreneurs. U.S. public libraries, including those that have already participated, are eligible to apply for funding. [Read more and to apply.](#)