



Information sent every Thursday at 9 a.m., with developments for our member libraries related to COVID-19.

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

- Staying Together Recording/Chat/Discussion from 7/21
- Updated Courier Guidelines (See #2)

2) Wabeno Closed

Due to a COVID-19 issue, the Wabeno Public Library is closed for the next two weeks, effective immediately. The library will reopen on August 6. Please hold any materials for Wabeno until that time.

3) Recommended Quarantine Time Update

Based on the [Test 2 Results of the REALM study](#) and a recommendation from the DPI, the Wisconsin Valley Library Service and the IFLS Library System, are adjusting the quarantine of library materials to 96 hours, effective Monday, July 27. This includes items placed in library book drops and items placed in courier. The [courier guidelines](#) have been updated to reflect this practice. The Waltco terminals, as well as Statewide Delivery, will also follow this guideline.

Shannon Schultz sent the following message to library directors yesterday: *On July 21, 2020, scientists at Battelle Labs released the results of [Test 2](#) of the REALM Project. Library materials tested included Braille paper pages, glossy book pages, magazine pages, children's board books, and archival folders, in varying environmental conditions. While most of these results came back acceptable under current recommended quarantine practices, the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19 showed a trace amount of virus at four days on certain materials. In light of these results, DPI and the system directors have determined that the recommended quarantine time for library materials be increased to four days.*

We realize that an increase in quarantine time may be burdensome to many libraries; this decision was not made lightly. Because the public library is an institution that people trust, honoring that trust by being cautious with protocols involving public safety, particularly when the science supports doing so, is of utmost importance.

Please continue to note the date and time that a bin is sealed/closed before it goes out for courier. If you have any questions, contact courier@wvls.org.

4) WISCAT Update: Starting on Aug. 3rd (WISCAT Team)

We are excited to share that starting on Monday, August 3rd, we will be resuming WISCAT service for libraries that are ready to lend and borrow! Please do not place new borrowing requests until August 3rd. We anticipate many questions from the field. [We have compiled information on resuming WISCAT service in a Google Doc, and will update it as needed.](#) This document covers important configuration steps you should take to start borrowing and lending again. Please be sure to read it in full.

We will be holding 2 sessions to cover these details -- One today at 10 am, and another next Wednesday, July 29, at 1 pm. The content of both will be essentially the same -- we will largely be covering the document in detail, including live demos of necessary or suggested configuration changes. The second session will incorporate questions or comments that arose in the first session. The second session will be recorded and shared out. [Connection details for both sessions are here.](#)

Please be patient -- this is going to be at least a little messy. Libraries are all at different stages of reopening with different staffing levels and different ILL preferences right now, so if you have questions about specific requests, your best bet is to ask the borrower or lender directly. Thanks, and as always, pose your questions to the WISCAT community by emailing the WISCAT/ILL listserv at illwiscatlist@lists.dpi.wi.gov.

5) “Staying Together” on July 28

The next Staying Together Discussion is on Tuesday, July 28 at 1 p.m. The topic will be quarantining of library materials.

Phone: +1.408.419.1715 or 1.408.915.6290 (only one number is needed to join)

Meeting ID: 715 397 297 139 731

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

6) COVID-19: Activity Level by Region and County

In addition to the information provided by your local and tribal health departments, you can find more about the [#COVID19_WI](#) activity level in your county and which regions are classified as high, medium, or low activity levels for disease spread. [Read more.](#)

