



1) Addendum to the Wisconsin Public Libraries Reopening Guide

In response to Wisconsin's shift to the vaccination/late phase of the pandemic, the Division for Libraries and Technology (DLT), in collaboration with public library system directors, has added an addendum to the [Wisconsin Public Libraries Reopening Guide](#). For ease of access, the Addendum can be found on the first five pages.

This new information includes best practices intended to offer support in decision-making regarding the continuation of current practices, assessment of community data in comparison with public health metrics, consideration of vaccination rates, a reconsideration of quarantine of library materials, and resources for updating the library communications plan.

DLT acknowledges that these considerations are intended to assist libraries in making local decisions, and that authority rests with the library board. Regional and local conditions should be considered when making changes to current practices, and *we strongly encourage local libraries to continue to communicate with their public library systems before making changes.*

All information in the addendum has been approved by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

- Shannon M. Schultz, Public Library Administration Consultant Library Services Team, Division for Libraries & Technology

2) Recorded Webinar Now Available

The first WVLS recorded webinar of 2021 is now available, "**Top Tips for Online Presentations.**" Online meetings and presentations came to the forefront in 2020, and they likely aren't going away. But being a dynamic in-person presenter doesn't necessarily mean that enthusiasm will translate to the virtual environment. This presentation is worth 1 contact hour for public library certification in Category B. [Watch it here.](#)

3) Emergency Broadband Benefit Coming Soon

In late April, a new federal program called Emergency Broadband Benefit, or EBB, will go into effect. The program will provide a \$50/month discount for internet access (\$75/month on Tribal Land) for low-income households. Libraries can play an important role in promoting the program and even, if possible, helping patrons to register. [Read more and to download social media images.](#)

4) WVLS Webinar This Week

The first webinar in the Spring Public Services Series is at 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 15. “**From Plexiglass to Physical Distancing: Library Spaces in 2021**” will help libraries discover low and high-cost changes to library spaces during a pandemic, learn best practices for staff and public safety, and steps to opening a library incrementally and safely following a pandemic. [Register here](#).

Further information on this topic can be found on the “[Forward Thinking Building Changes](#)” Digital Lite post, as well as the [Building Resources](#) WVLS webpage.

5) WISCAT Meeting Rescheduled

Because the May 6 meeting is scheduled during the WAPL conference, the User Group Meeting has been moved to May 13 at the same time, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Agendas and log on information will be sent two weeks before the scheduled date.

6) Advocacy Tip

Take a look at the homepage of your website. Do you have images of your space but not photos of your library team smiling? Adding happy images of the library team in action helps to encourage relationship building and helps the public think about your library as a friendly place.

7) This Week's Webinars

- From Being to Doing: [Anti-Racism as Action at Work](#) - 1 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13
- [Mental Health First Aid and Trauma-Informed Approaches for Libraries](#) - 2 p.m. on Tues., April 13
- [Planning an Exit Strategy for a Board Member](#) - 11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 14
- [Adult Take & Make Ideas for Your Library](#) - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 14
- [Understanding COVID-19 Vaccines: A REALM Project Webinar](#) - 2 p.m. on Friday, April 15

8) Marketing Updates

- In her latest post, Angela talks about why libraries should stagger its marketing promotions. [Read more from Super Library Marketing](#).
- Google has launched a new overview of what it's calling 'lockdown trends', a daily overview of the hobbies and interests that saw the biggest increases in search volume over the last year. [Read more from Social Media Today](#).
- In this episode, Angela talks about the top line results of the Immersive Media & Books Research Project 2020. [Watch it here](#).

9) State News

- **OverDrive Updates:**
 - The new **Notify Me: Series** tag sends push or email notifications when the next issue of a magazine is available. In the future, more options will be added for users to receive notifications when other content of interest is added to your library's collection. There is now automatic tag syncing across devices and automatic tagging of borrowed and sampled titles.

- Based on popular request, Libby now supports wish list syncing with the OverDrive app and your library's OverDrive website. Users with active wish lists will be notified in-app and prompted to sync their wish list titles into a single tag. [Learn more here.](#)
- The 2021 WAPL Conference [programs are now posted](#) on the WLA website. The Tuesday Keynote Address will be given by Eric Klinenberg, author of "Palaces for the People." [Register](#) before Friday, April 12 for the early bird rate!
- Public Library Association (PLA) recently posted a blog on how library staff can assist patrons with the Affordable Care Act open enrollment. [Read more.](#)