



## 1) Holiday Closures

- **The WVLS Office** will be closed on the following: Tuesday, December 24, Wednesday, December 25 and Wednesday, January 1, 2025.
- **Delivery/courier service** will not be running on the following: Tuesday, December 24, Wednesday, December 25 and Wednesday, January 1, 2025.
  - If a library is scheduled to receive delivery on a day that Waltco is not running, a make-up stop will not be scheduled.
  - Likewise, if a library is closed on a delivery day, a make-up stop will not be scheduled.
  - Sorting will be affected because of the WVLS office and library closures. Libraries might notice fewer items delivered later next week.
  - Contact [courier@wvls](mailto:courier@wvls) with questions.
- **Monday Mentions** will not be posted the week of Monday, December 30.

## 2) WAPL Conference Accepting Program Proposals

The application for submitting proposals for breakout sessions for the Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries (WAPL) Conference is now open. The conference theme is also our state motto: Forward! The conference will be held April 30 - May 2 at the Oshkosh Marriott Waterfront Hotel.

The conference committee welcomes proposals from libraries of all sizes and from individuals who work in a variety of roles.

Session proposals will be accepted through midnight Friday, January 24. [Learn more and submit a proposal.](#)

## 3) WISCAT Agreement for 2025

The 2025 WISCAT membership agreement form [is now live and ready for you to complete.](#) The WISCAT license fee is again waived for 2025 participants.

Please go to the following link to confirm your participation and willingness to follow the [Wisconsin Interlibrary Loan guidelines.](#)

Note the following:

- After agreeing to the 5 statements, choose your Library Type. Next, you will be able to select your library from the drop down menu.

- If you do not find your library in the drop down menu, please type in your library name in the box below the list of Library Types.

Please contact [wiscat@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:wiscat@dpi.wi.gov) if you have any questions or difficulties completing the form. WVLS encourages all of its member libraries to participate in WISCAT.

#### 4) D&D Kits and Professional Titles

- WVLS still has Dungeons and Dragons Essential Kits available for member libraries. Larger libraries may request more than one kit. This is a great way to offer additional programs at your library. Requests for the essential kit can be sent to Brenda Walenton at [bwalenton@wvls.org](mailto:bwalenton@wvls.org).
- WVLS currently subscribes to 8 professional titles that can be routed to member library staff. Would your library like to be on a routing list to receive one or more of these titles? Would your library prefer to stop receiving one or more of these titles? Brenda is updating the routing list for 2025 and is looking for your input. The titles are: *American Libraries*, *Audiofile*, *Children & Libraries*, *Computers in Libraries*, *Library Journal*, *Public Libraries*, *Publisher's Weekly*, and *School Library Journal*. Email Brenda at [bwalenton@wvls.org](mailto:bwalenton@wvls.org) with your request.

#### 5) Post-COVID Survey Request

Although we are some distance away from the peak of COVID-19, limited research has been conducted into how public libraries altered their services during the pandemic, as well as what service changes have remained permanent and what changes were just temporary to accommodate patron needs when physical access to library buildings was restricted.

Brian Real, Assistant Professor at the University of Kentucky's School of Information Science is [conducting a survey](#) about how library services have changed in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete and is available through January 10.

#### 6) Reminders:

- **Library Legislative Day Registration Open**

The Wisconsin Library Association's annual Library Legislative Day will be held on Tuesday, February 11, 2025. Lodging and a morning program will be held at the Best Western Premier Park Hotel, across the street from the Capitol. WVLS members who plan to join this year should reserve room reservations early.

Bus transportation will be available from Wausau this year. WVLS scholarships will be available for library staff and trustees to attend this event. [Read more on registration information, busing, and lodging.](#)
- **Streamlining WVLS Email Communications**

*Monday Mentions* was created in 2018 to reduce the number of emails WVLS members receive from WVLS staff. While every effort is made to include most correspondence in *Monday Mentions*, there are occasions when individual emails need to be sent. At the September 2024 WVLS Listening Session, it was suggested that emails from WVLS staff include action words in the subject lines. Check out the [WVLS Email Guideline](#) on the WVLS website for details. [There is also a Digital Byte](#) explaining the guideline. Contact Jamie Matczak at [jmatczak@wvls.org](mailto:jmatczak@wvls.org) if there are any questions.