

Dear Patrons,

The safety of our patrons and employees is a priority to Rhinelander District Library. RDL staff are working to stay on top of this evolving COVID-19 situation by following guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control, WI Department of Health Services, and the Oneida County Health Department:

The current plan is to: 1) prioritize the safety and health of our staff and patrons; 2) continue serving your library needs for the time being; 3) plan ahead for changing circumstances.

- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm>
- Oneida County Health Department: <https://publichealth.co.oneida.wi.us/>

What can you do?

As the State of WI says:

Wash your hands. Cough into your elbow. Stay home if sick.

According to the most recent information from the CDC, for most people, the immediate risk of being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to be low. We encourage any concerned patrons, especially those in high-risk populations, to stay home if they are feeling ill or are simply concerned about potential exposure.

Please keep in mind, as a public space, the Library cannot guarantee a germ-free environment or germ-free physical materials. You need to consider if using library materials, or visiting the Library or other public spaces, is best for you and your family. As a reminder, the Library has many digital services available to you for free.

What is Rhinelander District Library doing?

Library Cleaning: We want you to feel confident visiting RDL. Our facilities team spend 3-5 hours a day cleaning and maintaining the library and will be disinfecting and sanitizing all hard surfaces, lavatories and high touch areas such as doorknobs, railings, elevator buttons, keyboards and computer mice.

Library Materials Cleaning: Collection materials may be, but are not usually disinfected when they are checked-in or as they are browsed or used in-house due to limited resources and supplies.

Staff and Patron Hygiene: While supplies last, we are making hand sanitizer and wipes available to staff and patrons, plus we are encouraging frequent hand-washing by everyone.

Library Services: We are developing staffing and service models should we need to reduce services.

Next Steps: We are monitoring this developing situation closely, staying up-to-date on info from federal agencies, health organizations, and other experts.

We will continue to communicate any further impacts to Rhinelander District Library.

Thank you for working with us to keep RDL a healthy environment.