



Homer Twp. Public Library

RE-OPENING PLAN

Governor Pritzker has issued the ***Restore Illinois Plan** to describe the levels of risk and recovery regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. As the Coronavirus pandemic is fluid we may move up or down the library re-opening plan dependent on the Governor's strategies and recommendations from the CDC.

Phase One / Two

*Rapid Spread / Flattening

- Stay-at-home and Social Distancing plans are put into place by the State of Illinois
- Library building closed; staff to shelter in place; remote work in place to provide virtual/digital services
- eBooks and library services offered virtually 24/7
- Book donations not accepted/Book Drop closed

Phase Three – Current (Began June 8)

*Recovery

- Library building remains closed; Library staff return to work as scheduled under specific safety protocols
- June 8 Book drop open; returned items are placed into 7-day quarantine
- June 15 Curbside Pickup begins: Mon 10-2, Wed 4-7, Sat 10-2
- June 22 Virtual Summer Reading Program begins
- eBooks and library services offered virtually 24/7
- Library story times, book discussions, and other programs offered virtually

Phase Four

*Revitalization

- Library building open for limited browsing and computer use by appointment to Homer cardholders only; social distancing enforced; entrance monitored; face mask or protective covering required. A limited number of people will be allowed in the building at one time; seating restricted
- Specific hours for vulnerable patrons may be established and continue into phase five
- Study, Quiet Reading and Community Rooms remain closed
- Curbside Pickup continues: Mon 10-2, Wed 4-7, Sat 10-2
- eBooks and library services offered virtually 24/7
- Library story times, book discussions, and other programs offered virtually

Phase Five

*Illinois Restored

- Gradually phase out appointment process; gradual return to regular service hours and full services dependent on the guidelines issued by governing bodies and health authorities.
- Library building open for longer browsing and computer usage with limits of one patron per table and other social distancing plans; seating restricted; face mask or protective covering required. Limits on number of people allowed in the building at any one time.
- Curbside Pickup may be phased out: Mon 10-2, Wed 4-7, Sat 10-2
- eBooks and library services offered virtually 24/7
- Bookmobile and Outreach Service under review
- All safety precautions continue; provisions may still need to be in place regarding facial coverings/masks, social distancing, etc. based on recommendations from the Illinois Dept of Public Health

Homer Township Public Library District

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

June 8, 2020

RE: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Dear Homer Library Patron,

The Library is traditionally a hub of community activity, and we place a high priority on the health and safety of our visitors and staff. We remain temporarily closed to help limit the spread of coronavirus and ensure the safety of all, especially people with underlying conditions, seniors, and those at greater risk.

- The Library building and Bookmobile Service is closed to visitors.
- The Book Drop is open. All items returned are quarantined for 7 days.
- Curbside Holds Service (contactless) began Monday, June 15.
- We are Fine Free and items checked out are automatically renewed.

The library has a phased reopening process. Decisions are based on guidelines from the Illinois Department of Public Health, which cite social distancing and event cancellations as effective means for preventing the spread of disease. For up-to-date information about COVID-19, please refer to these important resources:

- Illinois Dept. of Public Health COVID-19 updates: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/>.
- CDC Summary: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>
- Will County Health: <https://willcountyhealth.org/>

You can continue to use the library 24/7 (without visiting) by downloading eBooks; listening to downloadable and streaming audiobooks; streaming movies and TV shows; streaming music; reading digital comics, newspapers, and magazines; taking online classes; and much more. Browse our [Calendar](#) for virtual programs and events. Sign up for our [Library E-News](#) here.

The health and safety of the Homer Community is at the forefront of our decision making. We are working on protocols to serve the community safely when we reopen and will continue to adjust and plan as we get updated information regarding the COVID-19 outbreak. You are welcome to e-mail sheree@homerlibrary.org with questions and I will do my best to respond to your email within 48 hours. Your patience and support are appreciated during this unprecedented health crisis.

All of us at the library miss serving you in person and look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Sheree Kozel-La Ha

Executive Director

Homer Twp. Public Library