Phased Reopening Plan

During our COVID-19 closure, library staff have worked remotely to serve the community digitally—through eBooks and eMedia, our website, social media, email, Zoom events, and more. We are eager to begin to serve you again in person and circulate physical materials, but we also understand our grave responsibility to keep our patrons and staff safe. Therefore, Midlothian Public Library—in conjunction with regional and statewide library organizations, and under the guidance of Governor Pritzker’s Restore Illinois plan—will reopen in phases.

Phase 1: Saturday, May 23 - Tuesday, June 2, Return Checked Out Materials

Thanks for keeping your library materials at home during our closure! Science shows that the best way to disinfect library materials is to quarantine them for 72 hours. Please give our quarantine process a head start by bringing back your materials to our book drop throughout this pre-opening period.

Phase 2: Wednesday, June 3, Curbside Service and Homebound Delivery Begins

Library Hours will be Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 10 am - 4 pm and Tuesday & Thursday, 1-7 pm. You may order library materials via our online catalog or by phone. See inside this newsletter for procedures.

Phase 3: Date TBA, Limited In-Building Services

We know that many of you rely on our Internet-connected computers, printers, FAX, scanner, and copier for your personal business needs. This will be our next reopening priority. As soon as we have determined that we can open up for these services safely, we will announce our dates, times, and procedures for doing so.

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact Library Director Jennifer Cottrill by the phone or email on this newsletter or any of our Board of Trustees at their emails listed on our website.

Our Staff Are Ready to Help!

By phone or by live chat via the Help Button on our website, staff can...

- Suggest books, movies, and audiobooks for you and your family,
- Answer your questions about eBooks, eMedia, and other technologies,
- Guide you to answers to your informational questions, such as how to access governmental and social service agency resources,
- Help you and your family sign up for Summer Reading, and more!

If you leave us a voicemail or a Help Button message outside of library hours, staff will respond the next business day.
Curbside Service

How to Request Materials

Use our online catalog to place a hold (see upper right-hand corner of our website).

-OR-

Call 708-535-2027. Staff can help you select items.

Please note:
You can only request items available at our library.

Items requested online will be checked out to you the next day. Phone requests will be checked out to you the same day. If not picked up in 7 days, items will be checked in and re-shelved.

New DVDs and BluRays may only be ordered by phone and will only be held for 24 hours.

All materials will be checked out for 3 weeks with NO auto-renewals. If you wish to renew, please call the library.

How to Pick Up Materials

1. Pull into numbered spot in our parking lot.
2. Wait inside your vehicle at all times.
3. If on foot, wait 6 feet from other people.
4. Call 708-535-2027 and give staff your name.
5. Pop your trunk and wait for staff to deliver materials.

Please note:
If you don’t have a cell phone to call from the parking lot, call the library from home to make an appointment for a pickup time.

If you can’t use your trunk, staff will place your materials in a bag on the pavement outside your car.

How to Sign Up for a Library Card

Click “Card Signup” on the upper right-hand corner of our website and fill out the application. Your digital card will be immediately active for online materials only.

-OR-

Call 708-535-2027 OR email sross@midlothianlibrary.org.

Then, a library card application will be mailed to your home address. Fill out and return it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. We will call you when your card is ready for curbside pickup, or we will mail it to you (your choice).

Please note: Online card signup is only available to individuals age 13 and up.

Need Help Choosing Materials When You Can’t Browse the Library?

Visit www.midlothianlibrary.org/curbside for online tools, including questionnaires for personalized help!

Fine Amnesty

The Coronavirus Pandemic has caused economic hardship to many. Also, for reasons of public safety, cash handling should be avoided. Therefore, the Board of Trustees of Midlothian Public Library has approved a three-month fine amnesty period beginning June 3. During this three-month period...

- If you check out materials from Midlothian Public Library and they become overdue, you will not be charged fines.
- If you return previously checked-out overdue materials, your fines on them will be forgiven.
- If you previously returned overdue materials but have unpaid fines for them on your account, you can call the library at (708) 535-2027, and staff will forgive these fines.

Fine forgiveness is available to Midlothian cardholders only. This amnesty only covers overdue fines; cardholders will still be held responsible for charges for lost and damaged items and administrative fees for long-standing bills sent to a collection agency. Also, if an item is overdue for 42 days or more, you will be billed for the replacement cost of the item until the item is returned.

Homebound Delivery Service

The library offers homebound delivery service to individuals permanently or temporarily confined to their homes. Individuals who are vulnerable to the Coronavirus due to age or health conditions are also welcome to use this service. Midlothian residents of all ages are eligible. Deliveries will be made contact-free in plastic boxes on your porch or a similar area at your residence.

To get started, just call the library at (708) 535-2027, and a library staff member will take your application by phone. Or go to www.midlothianlibrary.org/homebound and print out an application, which may be returned by U.S. mail, email, or FAX.

Once you are signed up, library staff will assist you in selecting reading, listening, and viewing materials and coordinate delivery to your home.

Free WiFi in Our Parking Lot

Please use inside vehicles for social distancing.
"Reading Brings Us Close at Heart": Social Distancing Summer Reading 2020
Monday June 8 - Saturday, August 1

Kickoff Incentives

Youth ages 18 & under will receive a black-and-white Summer Reading logo t-shirt and free new book for their age level (while supplies last). Additionally, tie dye kits will be given to the first 100 families who sign up. After signup, claim your incentives and get your Summer Reading Folder by curbside pickup.

Adults ages 18 & up will receive a pair of gardening gloves with their Summer Reading Folder (while supplies last). If you are 18, you may select either the youth or adult program.

How to Sign Up

Visit our website at www.midlothianlibrary.beanstack.org or call 708-535-2027. We encourage everyone to log their progress online or in the free app. Staff can help you log online by phone or live chat. Logging instructions and paper reading logs will be in your Summer Reading Folder. If you can’t log online, use your paper reading log and call staff periodically to report progress.

What counts as reading? Books, magazines, graphic novels, eBooks, audiobooks, and eAudiobooks (from the library or home).

How to Participate

Birth-PreK: Read 30 books. Log every time you read a book. Read 30 books to be entered into a drawing for end-of-summer prizes!

Grades K-2: Read 10 minutes a day for 5 days a week.

Grades 3-6: Read 20 minutes a day for 5 days a week.

Teen (Grades 7-12): Read 30 minutes a day for 6 days a week.

Log every time you read or complete a fun weekly challenge. Complete your goal to be entered into a drawing for end-of-summer prizes!

Adults (ages 18 & up): Read 3 books to win a prize.

Log every time you read a book and complete other online challenges for drawing tickets for additional end-of-summer prizes!

Programs at Home

We can’t open our building for programs right now, but we will bring the programs to you—online or through take-and-make kits.

Please see our online event calendar for details on what will happen and how to join: http://midlothian.evanced.info/signup/calendar

Early Childhood

Play, Baby, Play Online Mondays, 10 am

Family Fun Bilingual Storytime Online Tuesdays, June 9 & 23 and July 7 & 12, 6:30 pm

Fantastic Fridays Storytime Online Fridays, 10 am

Early Elementary (Grades K-2)

Book Parties Online
Wednesdays, June 17 and July 8 & 22, 1 pm

Take-It, Make-It Crafts: Littles Mondays, June 8 & 22 and July 6 & 20

Teen (Grades 7-12)

Take It, Make It Crafts: Teens
Thursdays, June 11 & 25 and July 9 & 23

RPG (Role Playing Game) Club Online
Tuesdays, 4 pm

Adult Programs

Thursdays, 6:30 pm

All Adult programs will be held online via Zoom. See our online event calendar for instructions.

June 4: Summer Reading “How-To”

June 11: Triangle Love Journal Craft

June 18: Greet Your Neighbor! (Simple Spanish Phrases)

June 25: Book Talks

July 2: Introduction to Ancestry Library Edition

July 9: DIY Ribbon Photo Board Craft

July 16: Creative Writing

July 23: Trivia Night

July 30: Book Talks
Para la seguridad de los usuarios de la biblioteca y el personal, la biblioteca se abrirá en fases.

**Fase 1:** El sábado, 23 de Mayo – el martes 2 de Junio, Devolución de Materiales

La ciencia muestra que la mejor manera de desinfectar los materiales de la biblioteca es ponerlos en cuarentena por 72 horas. Ayúdenos a prepararnos para reabrir por devolviendo los materiales a nuestra caja de devolución de libros.

**Fase 2:** El miércoles, 3 de Junio, Servicio de Curbside y Entrega para los Usuarios Confinados en Casa comenzará

Horario: El lunes, miércoles, viernes y sábado, 10 am - 4 pm; el martes y jueves, 1-7 pm

Cómo Solicitar los Materiales

Use nuestro catálogo por el Internet y ponga materiales en espera (colocada en la esquina derecha de nuestra página de web) o llame 708-535-2027. El personal le puede ayudar a seleccionar artículos. Sólo puede solicitar artículos disponibles en nuestra biblioteca. Cuando llegue a la biblioteca, estacionese en un lugar numerado, llámennos, permanezca en su vehículo, y el personal traerá materiales a su maletera. Si necesita la entrega para los usuarios confinados en casa, pregunte a un empleado cuando llame.

Cómo registrarse para obtener una tarjeta de biblioteca

Haga clic en “Card Signup” en la esquina superior derecha de nuestro sitio web y solicite en línea (esta tarjeta estará activa inmediatamente para los materiales en línea). O llame al 708-535-2027 o envíe un correo electrónico asross@midlothianlibrary.org para solicitar una solicitud. A continuación, se le enviará por correo una solicitud de tarjeta de biblioteca con un sobre de devolución prepago. El personal le llamará cuando su tarjeta esté lista.

Amnistía fina

Durante 3 meses, la biblioteca no cobrará multas por materiales vencidos. Si devuelve sus materiales vencidos, o si nos llama sobre multas por materiales vencidos devueltos previamente, el personal perdonará sus multas. Sólo para tarjetahabientes de Midlothian. Esto incluye multas solamente; todavía se le cobrará por artículos perdidos o dañados y cargos por facturas enviadas a una agencia de cobro.

Lectura de verano, 8 de Junio - 1 de Agosto (¡Para todas las edades, desde el nacimiento hasta adulto!) Para inscribirse, visite nuestro sitio web en www.midlothianlibrary.beanstack.org o llame al 708-535-2027. Después, recoja su premio de inscripción y la carpeta de lectura de verano durante las horas designadas para recoger en la acera. ¡Grabe su lectura en línea o por teléfono y participe en los sorteos de premios de fin de verano!

Programas de verano en casa

La biblioteca ofrece programas en Línea y manualidades para llevar y elaborar en casa. Consulte nuestro calendario de eventos en línea para obtener detalles y cómo unirse: http://midlothian.evanced.info/signup/calendar. Cuento Bilingüe En línea se llevará a cabo los Martes 9 y 23 de Junio y los días 7 y 12 de Julio a las 6:30 pm.

WiFi gratuito en nuestro estacionamiento.

Favor de utilizar dentro de su vehículo para mantener distanciamiento social.