**CORONAVIRUS SPECIAL NOTICE**

**The Library is monitoring the on-going developments related to the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19.**

As with the rest of the world, Library leadership is monitoring the on-going developments related to the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, with great interest.

The Librarytakes the safety and well-being of its staff, patrons, volunteers and employees seriously. We are monitoring the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and encourage you to continue to follow CDC updates as they become available.  The Library has adopted an Infectious Disease Policy that is available on the Library’s website; we encourage you to review that Policy.

The Library is continuing to monitor the situation carefully to provide Library employees and patrons updates as needed.  During an infectious disease outbreak, it is critical that patrons do not enter the Library while they are ill and/or experiencing symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Currently, the CDC recommends that people with an infectious illness such as the flu remain at home until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever (100 degrees F or 37.8 degrees C) or signs of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medications. If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, we ask that you do not come to the Library.

Currently, the Library has decided to cancel all programsheld at the Library or in the Community Room of the Library.

Because this is a continually evolving situation, the Library may continue to revise or cancel programming, make changes to the Library hours or schedule or close the Library entirely. We will use our best efforts to inform patrons of those changes by posting information at the Library or on the website. If you are planning to come to the Library or attend a program, please check the website before leaving to ensure the program is still on or that the Library is open.

As the world at large faces an uncertain future in regards to coronavirus, be assured the Library is keeping its focus wholly on the health and safety of all its employees and patrons. As we prepare for what may come, we will continue to make this our highest priority.

It is important to emphasize that the CDC recommends the following concerning the prevention and treatment:

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

* Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
* Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
* Stay home when you are sick.
* Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
* Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
* Follow CDC’s recommendations for using a facemask.
* CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
* Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for [health workers](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/infection-control.html) and [people who are taking care of someone in close settings](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-home-care.html) (at home or in a health care facility).
* Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
* If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

For information about handwashing, see [CDC’s handwashing](file:///C:\NRPortbl\LEGAL\SCAMERON\CDC's%20handwashing) website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/>

For information specific to healthcare, see [CDC’s Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings](https://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/index.html):

<https://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/index.html>

These are everyday habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses. CDC does have does have [specific guidance for travelers](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/warning/novel-coronavirus-china):

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/warning/novel-coronavirus-china>

**More Information**

For more information on the coronavirus, visit the [CDC’s coronavirus page](https://cts.vrmailer1.com/click?sk=asLAB2JgJjBJ5heZYAPYF5OXFW4RtRYPD_evEAFtd7CM=/aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuY2RjLmdvdi9jb3JvbmF2aXJ1cy8yMDE5LW5jb3YvaW5kZXguaHRtbA==/cbTu8y-DUaUaRLB_MMHDIg==&merge_field_type=(?x-mi:(?%3C=href=)%5b%5Cs%5d*%5b'%22%5d(?%3Curl%3E%5b%5E%7B%22%5d.+?)%5b%22%5d)&href_id_source=vr2-href-id-source-2) at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

CDC guidance on clinical signs and symptoms and infection prevention and control recommendations can be found at:

[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/index.html?CDC\_AA\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fguidance-hcp.html.](file:///C:\NRPortbl\LEGAL\SCAMERON\are%20https:\www.cdc.gov\coronavirus\2019-ncov\hcp\index.html%3fCDC_AA_refVal=https:\www.cdc.gov\coronavirus\2019-ncov\guidance-hcp.html)

In addition, if you have any concerns or specific questions, please contact Ann Greene at eauclairedistrictlibrary@gmail.com.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.