

Update from the Board of Selectmen for Monday, June 29, 2020

Governor Sununu's "Safer at Home" programs include new funding, announced June 22, for Youth programs (\$5 million), Substance Abuse/Mental Health (\$6 million) and Veterans (\$7 million) in the state. For details on the Governor's Executive Orders, [click here](#).

NEWINGTON TOWN HALL LIMITED REOPENING BEGAN JUNE 15TH- Town Hall reopened to the public **by appointment only** on Monday June 15th. Town Hall is limited to 4 residents (who have scheduled appointments) inside at one time. Residents will be greeted at the front door, with new protocols in place, which include:

- Visitors will be required to wear masks while in Town Hall
- Masks will be provided if the visitor does not bring one
- If the department the visitor wants to visit is already at capacity, that person will be asked to wait in a physical distancing queue at the picnic table outside or in the Kent Auditorium in designated seating

To make appointments: CALL NEWINGTON TOWN HALL 436-7640 (Monday-Friday 9am-4:30pm).

Town Clerk will be open for appointments **NOTE NEW HOURS:**

Tuesday & Wednesday 9am-1pm and Thursday 12pm-4:30pm

Building Inspector will be open for appointments: Monday-Thursday 6:30am-4:30pm

Town Planner will be open for appointments: Monday and Thursday 9am-4:30pm

Selectmen's Office will be open for appointments Monday-Friday 9am-4:30pm

Appointments may be held in the Kent Auditorium or at the front counters depending on the length of discussion.

STAY COOL! PROJECT COOLAIR – The return of hot, humid weather is a reminder for those 60+ and anyone whose health is adversely affected by the heat to be prepared before an emergency develops. Often, those in need of air conditioning “do without” because they do not have the funds or know where to seek assistance. Through [Project CoolAir, Area HomeCare](#) makes air conditioners available to low income, medically-challenged and 60+ residents in Rockingham County. Make arrangements now rather than waiting for a critical need to develop. For more information, contact Ellen Tully at City Hall:610-7267 or WFDept@cityofportsmouth.com

TRANSFER STATION-The reusable items area is now open!! One family in the area at a time preferred or wear masks if others are nearby. Follow social distancing.

WATER CONSERVATION – With the dry weather so far in June and with more households planting flower and vegetable gardens, the DPW Water/Stormwater Division encourages residents to “Think Blue” and consider some of [these water-saving measures](#) you can practice at home. For the US Drought Monitor map for NH, [click here](#).

FOOD STORES ARE OPERATING NORMALLY AND RECEIVING SHIPMENTS DAILY (although some products are in short supply at their distributors). For a list of food stores and pharmacies who offer delivery, <https://www.newington.nh.us/home/news/food-and-pharmacy-delivery-options-on-the-seacoast>

- Please wear face masks. Re-useable bags are not being allowed at this time.

FOR THE LATEST LIST OF NEWINGTON RESTAURANT FOOD TAKEOUT, PICKUP AND DELIVERY OPTIONS CLICK HERE:

<https://www.newington.nh.us/home/news/support-your-newington-restaurants-attached-is-a-list-of-all-restaurants-and-their-contact> Restaurants are being allowed to expand to outdoor seating. The town is working with those that want to do that.

UPDATED LIST OF INDOOR AND OUTDOOR DINING RESTAURANTS – For the list of restaurants that have received approval for various physically-distanced indoor and outdoor dining arrangements, [click here](#). **Please note that not all plan to open immediately. Always check first, as many have specific reservations requirements.**

No-Contact “Curbside” Lending of Library Materials Started June 8

May 31, 2020 Written by [Lara Croft](#)

We are excited to announce a plan for no-contact “curbside” lending of library materials starting Monday, June 8! Items available for loan will include books, audiobooks, DVDs and BluRays, magazines and music CDs ordered through our online catalog. Curbside access to small print jobs will also be provided via email.

1. You will need your library card number and login information to place reserves. If you haven’t logged in to our catalog before and need your information, please email info@langdonlibrary.org or call and leave a voice mail at 603-436-5154.
2. A limit of five (5) items may be checked out via curbside per week, and a limit of ten (10) pages may be printed per week. Please send an email with your print jobs attached to info@langdonlibrary.org
3. Curbside pickup hours will begin on Mondays and Thursdays from 1 PM to 4 PM, with appointments spaced 15 minutes apart. Appointments will be made in order of reserve placement.
4. Staff will wear masks and gloves and practice good hand hygiene while finding reserved items, checking them out, and placing them in a paper bag. Bags will be marked with library card numbers and time of pick-up appointment. Names will be omitted both on and in the bags to protect library user confidentiality.
5. Bags will be placed on a folding table outside before curbside hours begin. Signage with instructions and the library phone number will be placed on the table as well, for any questions that arise.

Answers to some FAQ:

What if I already have items on reserve? We will prioritize lending of items which were already reserved by patrons prior to the library closure. In the coming week, we will call everyone with existing reserves to ask if they want the item via curbside pickup or to have it moved to the next person on the list.

I usually choose books I read by browsing at the library. How will I choose books when I don't know what to search in the catalog? Library staff are currently creating lists of recommendations of popular books and award-winners. "What Newington is Reading" lists from the last few years have been compiled [here](#), with titles that our staff and patrons agree are worth reading. You can reserve them directly from this page. We also update the [New York Times bestseller list](#) with titles owned by our library every week. And you can always email us and ask for recommendations, or request titles we don't own, at info@langdonlibrary.org and director@langdonlibrary.org

I've never reserved a book in the catalog before. Where do I find the catalog, and how do I log in and place reserves? You can visit the catalog by clicking [here](#). You may also find it by going to www.langdonlibrary.org, clicking on "What to Check Out," and then "Search the Catalog/Log In." This navigates you away from our website and to the "OPAC," our library's Online Public Access Catalog. There is a link to instructions on how to place reserves in the "News and Messages" section of the main page of the OPAC.

Can I place reserves using email or by phone message instead? We will fill requests placed anywhere we receive them, but the ones placed in the catalog will be filled first, since that is the most efficient way for staff to keep track of them.

You stopped lending in March due to safety concerns for patrons and staff. Is it safe to lend now? After we closed the library in March, we put a procedure in place to quarantine and disinfect returned materials using CDC recommendations for shared surfaces. We have now acquired PPE for staff such as KN-95 masks, and gloves, which were not available when we first closed. We took time to study "best practices" for curbside procedures, which is how we came up with the idea of a table outside and using paper instead of plastic bags. We will continue to monitor safety concerns and adapt our procedures accordingly.

Can I make a donation for print jobs like I would if I were in the building? Donations are welcome but not necessary. If you want, you may write a check for an amount you wish and put it in an envelope in the book drop.

When will the library building reopen? We are still in the planning stages. The very thing that makes libraries vital to their communities, bringing people together, makes them risky to reopen during this crisis. Though Newington has a small number of COVID 19 cases, the library reopening (especially while other libraries are still closed) would draw people from

out of town and increase risks for both library staff and patrons. Each reopening stage will be carefully planned with safety as our highest priority.

Will online services like Hoopla remain available now that physical lending is resuming? Yes. Virtual and digital resources will continue for members of the community who do not wish to participate in physical lending.

Where do I return materials? Patrons with last names A through R may use the book drop to return items checked out before the closure by Sunday, June 7, and patrons with last names A through Z may return items checked out before the closure by Sunday, June 14. Patrons may use the book drop any time at their convenience after these dates. *Please do not leave items on the curbside pickup table.*

When can I start placing curbside requests, and how many can I place? You can start right now, and there is no limit! We will only fill 5 per week to start, but you can place as many as you want.

We are excited to start lending materials again and look forward to filling your requests!

COVID-19 TESTING

The NH Department of Health & Human Services is now coordinating COVID-19 testing appointments at one of the several testing clinics established throughout the state, for anyone who calls. That testing coordinating office phone number is 603-271-5980. For FAQs about testing in New Hampshire, [click here](#). In addition, the Rite-Aid at 1390 Lafayette Road in Portsmouth and CVS on Lafayette Road in Hampton are providing free by-appointment testing for COVID-19 to anyone age 18 or over.

For answers to other questions about Newington's response to COVID-19, please email: kkelley@townofnewingtonnh.com

For more information, visit the following link:

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

“Check back” as this site will be updated whenever new information is received.