



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **NEWPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY UPDATE**

The Newport Public Library has temporarily closed its doors until May 31, 2020 or until further notice in compliance with Coronavirus precautions, but our full-time library staff is still here and committed to providing everyone with reliable information and valuable services.

The Newport Library is offering limited check-out services in the form of Library Take Out. Patrons with library cards in good standing may place holds online or over the phone, for items that are available at Newport Library. Library staff will check out up to ten items on your card per week, and you may make an appointment to pick them up following health-conscious guidelines.

Patrons must come during their scheduled 30-minute time slot or reschedule by phone. The 30-minute time slots are available during these times:

**Monday 10 AM-1 PM**  
**Wednesday 3 PM-5:30 PM**  
**Friday 12 PM -3 PM**

Patrons may place holds through the online catalog at [encore.oceanbooks.org](https://encore.oceanbooks.org) or by calling the library at **541.265.2153**. Returned items will NOT be checked in immediately. There is a 72-hour quarantine period. Only one Library Take Out appointment per household per week. Please notify the Library if someone else will be picking up your holds.

The staff is available to help Library users via email or phone. Questions can be directed to Library staff, at 541.265.2153, weekdays, from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., or by email at [reference@newportlibrary.org](mailto:reference@newportlibrary.org). Calls and emails sent during the weekend will not be addressed until Monday.

This decision was not made lightly. Library staff recognizes that the closure means some of the people who need the Library most will not have access to the physical facility. If one of your friends or neighbors is struggling to connect with library resources, please encourage them to contact us directly. We want to help! Staff is working with its community partners to develop a plan to best

support the community. To protect employee health, staff is following guidelines from Lincoln County health officials.

You should also know:

- The Library is continually developing new on-line programming, opportunities, and content to keep the community connected and reading during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- While the physical space is closed, your Library card provides access to a world of digital content and other services for all ages including downloadable magazines, eBooks and audiobooks, streaming video, educational resources, and language tutorials. All are available at [www.newportlibrary.org](http://www.newportlibrary.org) and free with a library card.
- In the interest of extending digital services to individuals without a library card, a Temporary eCard is available. This card will allow full access to the Library's digital holdings, like Hoopla, Lib2Go, Flipster, and other databases.
- The Library drive-up book drop is closed, but the book drops on the building are open on weekdays.
- Holds and due dates are being extended, so materials that are due during this closure may be kept until the Library reopens. No fines will be incurred at this time.
- The "Little Free Libraries" will continue to be stocked for as long as the free supply of books and magazines holds out! Please find one in your area and enjoy the pleasure of reading. Leave a book if you wish or simply exchange your book when you are finished.
- Check the Library website at [www.newportlibrary.org](http://www.newportlibrary.org) for a full list of on-line opportunities, or call 541.265.2153, or email [reference@newportlibrary.org](mailto:reference@newportlibrary.org).
- Donations are not being accepted during this closure.
- There will be no Interlibrary Loan service during the closure.
- Physical Library events and meeting room reservations are canceled through the closure.
- Visit the Library website at [www.newportlibrary.org](http://www.newportlibrary.org) for COVID-19 information and resources. Library staff will also post information on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts.

Your health and safety, as well as that of our staff and volunteers is the top concern. Thank you for your patience as we modify operations during this unprecedented time.