

The State of Washington has released the Safe Start standards required for public libraries to open for curbside service only, in Phase 2. That means we can start getting some basic curbside pick-up going at the Libraries of Stevens County! The state has several requirements to keep staff and patrons safe. We have already started to gather the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), disinfection materials, and other resources needed to get us open.

Beginning Monday, June 8, all bookdrops in Stevens County will be open and ready for returns. Please remember, library materials checked out before our closure are not due back until July 1, 2020. All returned materials will be quarantined for 72-hours, as recommended by the CDC, before they are made available again. We have also been working closely with the Northeast Washington Tri-County Health District to develop all of our safe-start procedures.

Per, the Safe Start standards: "In-person services other than limited curbside pick-up are not permitted and libraries should remain closed to the public under Phase 2."

Also, starting Monday, June 8, the library website will allow patrons to place holds on library materials for curbside pickup. Patrons will be limited to requesting 10 items per visit, for the time being as we learn new procedures and ways of doing business. Cards will still have a total limit of 40 items. All types of library materials (DVD's, books, books on CD, magazines, etc.) will be available to select for curbside pick-up.

Please be patient as we work through these new ways of learning things. We hope to expand services as soon as safely possible. We will also have increased hours when staff will be available to take hold requests over the phone. Over the next few days, we will be developing a schedule for pick-up hours at each location. Stay tuned!

Curbside pick-up will start on Monday, June 15. Hours for pick-up will be limited at most locations due to requirements of having fewer staff in the building, managing returns that require quarantine, and meeting disinfection standards.

Curbside pick-up is available only for items that have been requested ahead of time. On-demand service will not be offered during these limited hours. Please allow a generous lead-time in order for staff to prepare your items for pickup.

Again, we ask for your patience as we work with our new plan for service. With your help in complying with the new requirements, we hope to continue to increase hours and expand services as we move forward. We thank you for the support and understanding you have shown Libraries of Stevens County.

Visit our website thelosc.org to find branch locations and contact information, or to download items from our downloadable ebook and audio-book collection.