
Fwd: ● Materials quarantine time to lower to 5 days●

Juliette Douglas <juliettedouglas@smrld.org>
To: staff <staff@smrld.org>

Fri, Oct 30, 2020 at 6:06 PM

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From: **Illinois Heartland Library System** <ihls@illinoisheartland.org>
Date: Fri, Oct 30, 2020, 3:10 PM
Subject: ● Materials quarantine time to lower to 5 days●
To: Reader <juliettedouglas@sixmilerld.org>

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Reduction of Delivery Quarantine Time to 5 Days

IHLS Members,

We are pleased to announce that in anticipation of guidance for libraries from the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, **Illinois Heartland Library System is reducing the quarantine time for interlibrary delivery materials and tubs from 7 days to 5 days, starting immediately.** We will continue to quarantine these items on libraries' behalves within our hubs. Should IDPH and DCEO recommend a shorter or longer quarantine time, then we will adjust our quarantine period accordingly.

Please continue to add a date to the outside of your tubs in the plastic label pocket. This date should indicate **the last time that items inside the tub were touched by human hands.**

IHLS Delivery leadership and the IHLS Delivery Working Group regularly review the available science regarding library materials, library environments, and what is known about the transmission and infectiousness of the coronavirus. After reviewing and considering the newest research and

literature reviews to the best of our ability as non-virologists, we came to the conclusion that it is safe to make this change to 5 days prior to receiving a response from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

- [Systematic Literature Review of SARS-CoV-2: Spread, Environmental Attenuation, Prevention, and Decontamination: Phase 2 – Gap Analysis – Mid-May 2020 to August 14, 2020](#) (REALM Project, OCLC/IMLS/Battelle, 12 Oct. 2020)
 - Also see: [Phase 2 - Systematic Literature Review: Key Takeaways from the Review](#)
- [REALM Project Lab Testing](#) (REALM Project, OCLC/IMLS/Battelle)
- [Updated Advice on Handling Library Materials during COVID-19 Pandemic](#) (Oregon Health Authority, 5 Oct. 2020)
- [Exaggerated Risk of Transmission of COVID-19 by Fomites](#) (The Lancet: Infectious Diseases, New Jersey Medical School - Rutgers University, corrected version published 30 July 2020)
- [It's Time to Talk About Covid-19 and Surfaces Again](#) (WIRED, 20 Oct. 2020)

Meanwhile, IHLS staff continue to practice the following safety procedures:

- disinfecting commonly touched workspaces and tubs, paying special attention to high-touch areas such as handles,
- requiring handwashing every 30 minutes,
- requiring masks for IHLS staff when around library materials or other people
- using temperature scanners to monitor the temperatures of all staff members before they enter an IHLS building and sending staff members home if they have a temperature reading above the state guideline of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit,
- following the Emergency Travel Order issued by the Chicago Department of Public Health,
- following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Illinois Department of Public Health, and
- regularly reevaluating our policies and procedures for improvement.

If you have any questions about the quarantine time and procedures or our in-house practices, please [contact your Delivery hub manager](#).

Thank you to all of our member libraries for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Leslie Bednar, *Executive Director*

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Ellen Popit, *Associate Director*

epopit@illinoisheartland.org

Susan Palmer, *Director of Operations*

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IHLS COVID-19 Resources

[IHLS Delivery News](#) - All our delivery-related news in one place

[COVID-19 Updates & Resources](#) - A series of pages including updates for members, resources for librarians, and more



Illinois Heartland Library System

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