

Dear Patrons and Friends,

As the one-year anniversary of the pandemic's effect on our region approaches, there are many positive things happening which will help move us back toward a more normal life.

It is important to continue taking care to minimize the spread of COVID 19.

Governor Lamont has included libraries among the various businesses and services which will no longer be subject to capacity limitations, effective Friday, March 19, 2021. However, the C.H. Booth Library will continue to operate under its phased approach of safe opening as described in its [Plan for Reopening](#), available [here](#).

The C.H. Booth Library is currently in phase 7, which includes:

- In person browsing and borrowing for all ages with masking and distancing restrictions
- Limited in-person children's programs
- Online and DIY programs that include Make'n'Take and Grab'n'Go kits for all ages
- Self-service scanning, faxing, and photocopying
- Reference services by phone, chat or in person
- Limited seating and workspace
- Limited public computers
- Contact-free borrowing via curbside service
- Free home delivery via [Words on Wheels](#)

We regret that we cannot fulfill some of the roles that have traditionally been available, namely in-person meetings and large in-person programs. It is part of the mission of the library to provide a comfortable meeting place for the public, and free educational programs that stimulate lifelong learning. Believe me when I write that the library deeply misses being able to provide these services and looks forward to the time when we can do so. In the meantime we offer a massive amount of free online content and a robust slate of virtual programming.

For more information about open hours and available services, call the library. Departments include Children's [203-426-3851](tel:203-426-3851) and Circulation [203-426-4533](tel:203-426-4533).

The Library will continue to require face coverings and social distancing. **It is our goal to provide access to library services in an environment that is healthy and safe for our community and for our workers. Library staff have been happy to serve the public within safety protocols and guidelines that have been carefully crafted for their protection.**

The management continually monitors the average daily rate of COVID-19 cases in Newtown and the region and also local vaccination news. We will move toward expanding library hours and services as safely as we can in the coming months.

We appreciate your patronage and your patience.

Be well, be safe and be smart!

Douglas Lord
Director, C.H. Booth Library