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# Press Release

## **East Cleveland Public Library Announces Reopening, June 22, 2020**

The East Cleveland Library is happy to announce that after being closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, we are able to offer limited services to the public. While Covid-19 is still a real issue, our employees are working around the clock to make sure that the library stays a clean and safe environment for all. Currently, only the lobby is open to patrons; computers, notary, and passport services are not available at this time.

The library will not require patrons to wear masks, however, we strongly encourage patrons to wear face coverings or masks for the safety of other patrons and employees. We do have masks available at circulation for patron use, and staff will be wearing masks and gloves. The library is practicing social distancing, while we monitor capacity and limit the number of patrons permitted in the building at one time. Public restrooms and water fountains will not be available to the public. Patrons should also observe that the library's hours of operation have changed: Monday through Thursday from 11 am – 7 pm; closed on Friday; open Saturday from 10 am-6 pm; and closed on Sunday. Fridays are used for deep cleaning.

The library has been following guidelines from the Ohio Library Council and the Ohio Department of Health in responding to this pandemic. As such, it is uncertain when in-person programs will be offered. We do, however, plan to continue offering virtual programming during this time. While computer usage is not available, printing, copying and faxing services will continue to be offered. Patrons who need to print will be advised to send print jobs to [printecpl@gmail.com](mailto:printecpl@gmail.com) and staff will print patrons' documents. Patrons will be able to pay for and pick up printouts at the front circulation desk.

Patrons who have checked out items such as books and DVDs will be instructed to return them to bins as soon as they enter the library. The bins will then be placed in quarantine for 72 hours. After that time, materials will be discharged, sanitized and returned to shelves or to other libraries, once that service resumes. Due to restrictions, patrons will not be able to browse the selection of DVDs and books; however, they will be able to place holds or request books/materials they want to check out. A staff member will collect the items and bring them to circulation for checkout. Children's materials will be handled in the same way.

Summer lunch program has resumed. Parents and children are able to pick up lunches at the rear of the building as a "grab and go," as there is no seating or eating in the library at this time. To

keep younger patrons safe, minors under the age of 13 are not permitted in the library without a parent or caregiver.

We are here to help! Patrons can text **216-755-9453** to ask a question, or to receive automatic answers to questions pertaining to copying, printing, hotspots, hours, library cards, lost library cards, returns, and more.

The library understands that some of these restrictions are different and may be hard to get used to. We kindly ask the public to bear with us, as we begin to offer services again, and we thank the community for its continued patronage during this difficult time.