



A COMMUNITY UNITED

In the interest of public health, YDL's buildings closed March 13th, but our commitment to our community hasn't wavered. We've found creative ways to connect with and help you online and by phone. With this first special COVID issue of *The Loop*, we're reaching across the digital divide to everyone we can with ways we can help.

To our loyal users: We miss you! We can't wait until things get back to normal, but recognize it will take time. We're making plans for a gradual, flexible reopening when safe to do so.

To those who haven't already: contact us to get a free library card for access to streaming and downloadable entertainment. You won't know what you did without it!

Read on to learn what we're tentatively planning for reopening, the Summer Challenge, and much more. We hope the resources and information here can help you stay safe, informed, and engaged during this difficult time. Be well!

Lisa Hoenig, Director

ENGAGING WITH YDL DURING THE PANDEMIC

COVID-19 has changed the way we're working and living our lives. Since the library closed in March, we've been practicing social distancing and keeping tabs on the virus like all of you. As of May 27, there were over 1,560 confirmed and probable cases in the county, a number that has been increasing almost daily since mid-March.

The YDL staff can't wait to return to business as usual, but we must do it in a way that's safe for everyone. Though the situation is very fluid, we're preparing to hit the ground running when we can. We'll give regular updates in these pages, on our website, and social media about our plans and what you can expect as we gradually reopen. There are also many services available to you while the buildings are closed!

Getting or renewing a library card

We are issuing new library cards to residents during the closure and will happily renew existing cards. Give us a call at 734-879-1318 or visit www.ypsilibrary.org/interests/covid for more information. In most cases, you can simply email

a completed application and/or a clear picture of the front and back of your driver's license, along with your email address and phone number to ydlc@ypsilibrary.org.

Ask us about eCards, an express digital resources-only card, available through the summer, for YCS and eligible LCS students.

Library fines and check-outs

There are currently over 18,000 items checked out from YDL! Please keep your borrowed items at home while the library is closed, worry-free. All due dates are extended during the closure, and no fines will accrue. When the Governor's Stay Home order is lifted, we plan to gradually begin accepting returns, but we won't be able to take all 18,000 items at once! We will post notices on the book returns, website, and social media regarding when, where, and how returns will be accepted. If you have questions or need account assistance, please email ydlc@ypsilibrary.org or call 734-879-1318.

Events

For the foreseeable future, all library events will be virtual. Please visit our website and social media for specifics. See page 2 for more information on the programs we have in store.

Going forward

You will see more regular issues of *The Loop* providing more up-to-date info on our services, resources, and news in the community. Keep an eye out for the next issue around July 1.



GENERAL HELP FROM YDL

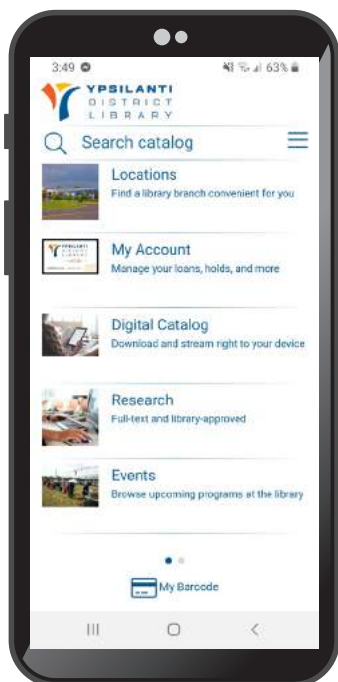
- ▶ YDLcovidhelp@ypsilibrary.org
- ▶ 734-879-1318 (during closure)
- ▶ 734-482-4110 (when we return to the building)

RESOURCES FROM YDL AND THE COMMUNITY:

- ▶ www.ypsilibrary.org/interests/covid/
- ▶ For library card help: ydlc@ypsilibrary.org

THERE'S (STILL) AN APP FOR THAT

Smartphone users can download the YDL app from the iTunes or Google Play store. Manage your library account, download a movie, or conduct research right from your phone. Users can link family accounts, browse our virtual events, and download digital content. Just search for “Ypsilanti District Library” or “YDL” in the app store. When we begin to offer curbside pick-up service, you’ll also be able to schedule a time through the app.



P.S. You can contact us at ydlicirc@ypsilibrary.org to get your PIN if you don't have it.

YOUR VIRTUAL LIBRARY

While doing your part to flatten the curve, you need information and entertainment! YDL offers a wealth of audiobooks, ebooks, music, and movies that you can access from home.

You can download or stream most of these from ypsilibrary.org or the library mobile app. Questions? Email YDLcovidhelp@ypsilibrary.org or call 734-879-1318.



Ebooks, AudioBooks, Music, Movies

Access the latest releases via Hoopla and Overdrive from our digital resources page (ypsilibrary.org/collections/download) or on the YDL app. We've been adding titles during the Stay Home order, so there's more for everyone. We've also doubled the Hoopla borrowing limit from 8 to 16 items per month, and you can take advantage of Hoopla's “bonus borrows” collection, which doesn't count against your limit. Learn more by logging into your account.

Need help finding your new favorite title? Visit www.ypsilibrary.org/2020/04/its-available-on-hoopla to see all of our staff picks.

Research Databases

YDL offers an extensive collection of research databases available to anyone with a library card. Whether you're writing a paper, finishing your homework, fixing a car, or working on a business plan, these vetted research tools can help you find the right answers. Visit ypsilibrary.org/research to browse the list.



During the Covid-19 outbreak, you can temporarily access the popular Ancestry.com genealogy database from anywhere—not just from a library computer! Visit ypsilibrary.org/ancestryresearch to explore their large collection of census, vital, military, and immigration records for genealogy research.

Magazines

Thanks to our partnership with The Library Network, our digital magazine collection has exploded! You can now enjoy access to more than 3,800 titles through YDL's rbDigital (formerly Zinio for Libraries) collection. Visit ypsilibrary.org/collections/download, click the link for the RB Digital Collection, and look at anything from *AdWeek* to *National Geographic* to *Car and Driver*. Bonus: digital issues of magazines do not need to be returned and are yours to keep.

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

Have you binged everything on Netflix already? Are you looking for activities and a connection with others during the pandemic? Even though we can't offer in-person events right now, our library staff have been busy creating programs and activities that you can participate in online. Some are recorded videos to follow, like storytimes. Some are virtual hangouts with your favorite library staff, but all of them are engaging and interactive. Keep an eye on our website and social media pages (as well as future issues of *The Loop*) for more updates and activities.

Little Ones: We'll be releasing content for little ones Monday through Saturday. Miss Kristen is hosting virtual baby storytimes! Sign up and talk with others about how you're doing and talk about activities that your babies/kids have been enjoying. To register or learn more, visit ypsilibrary.org/2020/04/baby-storytime-meet-up.

Virtual Storytimes: Starting June 16 on Tuesday,



Miss Liz (above) and Miss Marlena (below) have worked hard on Library Labs and storytimes that you can watch from home.

Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, find us on YouTube for regular storytimes. Visit ypsilibrary.org/events.

Library Labs: Watch Library Labs with Liz on YouTube where you can follow along from home to learn fun kitchen science experiments. In mid June, find weekly STEAM Challenges and take a virtual trip around the world at ypsilibrary.org/summer-learning. Hunt for secret codes within the lessons to earn Summer Challenge digital LEARN badges.

Guitar Club: The Guitar club will strum tunes online every other Saturday. Check our calendar page for the schedule, and call 734-879-1318 and leave a message to register. You will hear back with info on how to participate.

LNGO: Keep an eye on our summer events calendar for Learning Never Gets Old programs for people age 55+.

Visual Book Club: Virtual meetings every third Tuesday, 7:30–9. Call 734-879-1318 and leave a message to register. You will hear back with info on how to participate.

Garden to Table: Check out our new online Garden-to-Table series where you can learn how to plant potatoes or find mandalas in nature. Tune into YouTube each Saturday to get a new glimpse into what local gardeners and beekeepers are doing this summer, and discover hands-on garden activities you can do at home.

YpsiLibraryTeens: Follow the Teen Advisory Group on Instagram at YpsiLibraryTeens. You'll find fun weekly challenges, art project tutorials, an online gaming competition, a place to share your artwork, and information about activities you can do from home, like trivia meetups and paint alongs on Zoom (we will provide the supplies at curbside pickup when permitted). Check out the TAG page for details about when you can login to Zoom for workshops that will help you improve your manga drawing and music video skills.



We'll miss our kickoff celebration at the library, but a quarantine can't stop the Summer Challenge! Join us to read, explore, have fun, and earn prizes!

Visit ypsilibrary.org/summer to access all of the challenges and create accounts for yourself and your family. Log your books and activities from June 13–August 31 to be in the running for exciting prize baskets!

Earn digital badges every time you read or listen to a book, find a hidden code in our online summer programs, or complete a fun challenge that helps you explore the library and community. Visit a different park, birdwatch, go on a scavenger hunt for Ypsi history markers, or find new music on Hoopla. Set your own reading goal. The more you read, the more chances you have to win, but everyone who reads at least 6 books earns a \$5 gift card. For questions about the Summer Challenge, including collecting your prizes, signing up, or logging your challenges, email jodi@ypsilibrary.org.

Read and Win!

I read six books!

Starting the Summer Challenge is easy! List six books you read or listened to.

1. book: _____
author: _____
2. book: _____
author: _____
3. book: _____
author: _____
4. book: _____
author: _____
5. book: _____
author: _____
6. book: _____
author: _____

YPSI WRITES & WASHTENAW LITERACY

Our friends at YpsiWrites and Washtenaw Literacy also have digital content and activities to help keep you engaged and active.

YpsiWrites has a new website. Visit ypsiwrites.com for writing prompts, journaling help, and virtual tutoring! Virtual tutoring includes an option to submit writing for feedback, or sign up for a video session.

The YpsiWrites virtual tutors are ready to help you get started with any of the writing prompts that you're interested in. Visit ypsiwrites.com for more information.

You'll also find virtual tutoring, training, and prompts from Washtenaw Literacy. Visit washtenawliteracy.org for virtual events and tutoring options designed for adults learning to read and English language learners.

Both organizations can always use volunteers to become tutors. To learn more, contact YpsiWrites at www.ypsiwrites.com/contact and Washtenaw Literacy by phone at (734) 337-3338, or by email at info@washtenawliteracy.org.

YpsiWrites Featured Prompt

PROMPT #1: SIGNS OF SUMMER

What signs of summer can you sense? What signs of summer can you see, hear, smell, taste, or touch? Which signs remind you of earlier summers in your life? What thoughts, feelings, or memories are triggered by the signs of summer you've discovered?

KEEPING KIDS GOING

Parents are trying to navigate a new normal that no one in living history has had to attempt. Most kids are spending their days with little social interaction outside their immediate families. There are no guides to make this time more normal. However, here are some resources and advice that may help everyone take a breath:

- 1 Make a daily schedule that includes play time, quiet time, and family time each day. Get tips from our "Helping Kids Cope Guide" on the YDL Covid page (see page 1).
- 2 Watch a YDL virtual storytime or Library Lab and sing or do the activity along with us (see page 2).
- 3 Get outside. Visit a park, explore the backyard, build a fort, or work in a garden. You can find links in our Covid resource page.
- 4 Find other free virtual activities like field trips and fitness classes by exploring the Education Resource Guide on our Covid resource page.
- 5 Travel the world from home. Explore a different country each week on our website, with videos and recipe links that let you hear, see, and taste what life is like in other places.
- 6 Sign up for TALK: Text and Learn for Kindergarten to get text messages with easy activities you can do with your little ones (birth to 6). Visit texttolearn.com.
- 7 Take the Summer Challenge. It's full of fun, brain-building activities to keep you learning and busy all summer!

Details for all of these programs are available on ypsilibrary.org. You're already doing a great job, but we can help you make the most of this trying time.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

While we don't know what the future holds with Covid, everyone still has a voice in our community and government. Make sure yours is heard!



Census reminder

There was a recent milestone in the 2020 Census: More than half of the households in our nation have responded—that's nearly 80 million responses! However, there is still work to do. If you haven't been counted yet, visit 2020census.gov, or call 844-330-2020 to take the Census by phone. There are a number of different languages supported by phone. A more accurate count in our area means more money for roads, schools, and hospitals.

Absentee voting reminder

All registered voters in Michigan now have the right to vote by mail. It's a safe way to vote and protect your health, and the process is secure and accurate. For the first time, everyone will receive an application for an absentee ballot in the mail. You can return it to your local Clerk's office by mail or in person to receive your ballot. Visit the Secretary of State website at www.michigan.gov/sos. Then just mail your ballot in to your local clerk's office to have them counted.



COMMUNITY COVID RESOURCES

We've compiled a wealth of community assistance resources on a Covid web page (see page 1). Find answers to many frequently asked questions below. If you don't find what you need, give us a call at 734-879-1318!

Where can I get a Covid-19 Test?

Michigan's Test Finder has testing sites across the state. Go to Michigan.gov/coronavirus, click on "Find a Testing Site near You", and search by city or zip code. Sites below are listed in Michigan's Test Finder. Please call ahead for the most current information.

- St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor Hospital (Outpatient Surgery entrance), 5301 McAuley Drive, 833-247-1258. Free curbside testing, screening at ihacares.com/ecare, no appointment or physician referral needed. Testing is Sunday-Saturday, 8am-5pm.
- Perry Early Learning Center, 550 Perry Street, 734-971-1073. Free testing, no appointment, insurance, or prescription needed. Testing is Monday-Friday, 9am-4:30pm. Sponsored by Packard Health and Ypsilanti Community School.
- Fever and Upper Respiratory Illness Clinic at IHA Urgent Care @ EMU, 1065 N. Huron River Rd., 734-896-4112. Free testing, must have symptoms, complete screening at ihacares.com/ecare. Testing is Monday-Friday 7am-9pm, Saturday-Sunday 8am-6pm.
- Kroger at Ford Elementary School, 2440 E. Clark Rd., 888-852-2567, ext. 3. Free drive-up and walk-up testing available. Get screened and schedule a test at krogerhealth.com/covidtesting Testing is Monday-Thursday, 10am-4pm.
- Michigan Urgent Care & Occupational Health-Ann Arbor, 3280 Washtenaw Ave, 734-389-

2000, michiganurgentcare.com. No prescription needed, urgent care visit required, appointment recommended. Testing is Sunday-Monday, 8am-10pm.

Where can I get a mask?

- Eastern Michigan University Engage is collaborating with local organizations to sew masks and create face shields. Businesses may order masks. \$2 donation is suggested. For more information on how your organization can get masks, or how to help, email emu_engage@emich.edu.
- Ypsilanti Food Co-op has plenty of Ypsi-made cloth masks made by Sloth Girl and family. Cost is \$5, all of which is being donated to the Corner Health Center.
- West Willow Community Center: Distribution at 11am, while supplies last, every Thursday. Drive up and pop your trunk. In partnership with My Brother's Keeper Washtenaw County and the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department.
- Other options for purchasing masks are listed on our Covid page, and you can look at tutorials online for creating your own using rubber bands and handkerchiefs.

How many cases do we have in Michigan, and how many in our County?

Washtenaw County has a comprehensive site of Covid information (www.washtenaw.org/3095/COVID-19). As of May 27, there were 1,560 confirmed and probable cases in our county with 99 deaths. There have been 55,608 cases and 5,334 deaths in Michigan. Unfortunately, that number has been steadily rising since mid-March, when our first cases were reported.

Where can I get food assistance?

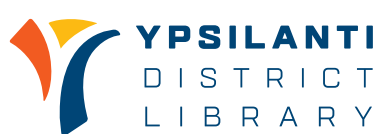
- Ypsilanti Community Schools (www.ycschools.us) is offering weekly pickups.



- Lincoln Schools (www.lincolnk12.org) has pickups three times a week.
- Food Gatherers has a list of food pantries and meal distribution locations on their website.
- A.E. City of Hope Food Pantry, in partnership with Food Gatherers, hosts a weekly food distribution at the old Ypsilanti Middle School. Visit foodgatherers.org for more information.
- Hope Clinic has groceries available every day, as well as meals 5 days a week, pantry & produce appointments, baby items, and free laundry services. They also offer free mental health, medical care and dental care to uninsured. For more information: thehopeclinic.org/food-1.
- Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels: Currently only making food deliveries to people with a medical need. You may not receive immediate deliveries due to high volume of requests.
- Ypsilanti Senior Center distributes frozen meals and shelf-stable foods to adults ages 60 and up. Suggested donation is \$3 per meal. Call 734-483-5014 or email ypsiseniors@sbcglobal.net to enroll in this program.
- Free outdoor community food pantries are available in Ypsilanti at 315 N. River Street and 1209 South Congress.

Details on all of these, as well as a Google Calendar of scheduled pickups, are available on our Covid resource page.

WWW.YPSILIBRARY.ORG



LOCATIONS & HOURS

YDL-WHITTAKER	YDL-MICHIGAN	YDL-SUPERIOR	YDL-BOOKMOBILE
5577 Whittaker Road Ypsilanti, MI 48197	229 West Michigan Avenue Ypsilanti, MI 48197	8795 MacArthur Blvd Ypsilanti, MI 48198	Ypsilanti, MI 48197
HOURS Closed	HOURS Closed	HOURS Closed	HOURS Closed

Board meetings are generally held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. They are open to the public. Visit ypsilibrary.org/board for updated meeting schedules, agendas, and minutes.

Contact: YDLcovidhelp@ypsilibrary.org or 734-879-1318

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