

The James Kennedy Public Library will be reopening to the public on Wednesday, June 3rd. For the safety of our staff and library patrons, access and services will be limited, and new procedures will be in place. The library will offer access to the library by appointment only on Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday from 9:30 am – 2:30 pm (final appointment ends no later than 2:30) and Tuesday & Thursday 3 – 7:30 pm (final appointment ends no later than 7:30). We will continue to offer curbside services Monday – Thursday from 10 am to 7 pm and Friday & Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm.

To ensure we are under the capacity guidelines provided by the Governor and provide space for social distancing, appointments will be available for no more than 60 minutes and visitors will be allowed to stay in the library for no longer than their scheduled appointment. Appointments will be scheduled on the hour and half hour. Library doors will remain locked and those with appointment will need to call the library when they arrive and library staff will greet and escort patrons with appointments into the library. Everyone is asked to wash or sanitize their hands upon entering and are encouraged to wear a mask.

Due to social distancing, only 3 public access computers will be available. Up to three laptops will also be available for use in the library in designated locations. Use of the computers will be limited to 30 minutes to allow adequate time for sanitizing between users. Only two people will be allowed per computer.

Up to 10 individuals wishing to browse the library collection may be allowed in the library at one time. Browsers will be provided with a bag and all items they handle should go into the bag and be brought to the desk. All handled materials will be quarantined for a minimum of 72 hours before being reshelfed. Browsing appointments will be for a maximum of 60 minutes.

Patrons will also be able to make appointments for use of the library equipment such as faxing, scanning and copying and connecting with staff about the summer library programs. These kinds of appointments will be made for no more than 30 minutes.

A variety of measures which are designed to reduce contact, especially prolonged contact, with library staff and other members of the public will be in place. Library staff will wear masks and visitors are encouraged to wear them as well. Plexiglass screens have been installed at the service desk and we are setting up a nearly touchless circulation process. Staff will not assist visitors at the computers or in the shelves at this time, but can be consulted at the service desk.

Materials may be returned in the exterior drop box at any time or by notifying staff of the return (for items that don't fit or shouldn't be returned in the drop box). Returned items will continue to be quarantined for a minimum of 72 hours.

Please call the library at 563-875-8912 to make an appointment, for curbside service, or for more information.