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**MASK REQUIRED AT THE LIBRARY STARTING JULY 21**

The health and well-being of our patrons, staff, and community is our top priority. In support of the Governor’s #MaskUpHoosiers initiative and the Lake County Health Department Public Health Order 20-01, the Crown Point Community Library will be requiring masks beginning Tuesday, July 21.

Combined with frequent handwashing and social distancing, wearing a face mask is one of the most effective ways to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Thank you for joining the Crown Point Community Library in keeping our community healthy and allowing the library to continue to serve the needs of our community.

**To prepare for your visit to the Library:**

* Please remember to bring your mask starting July 21. Masks will not be provided by the library.
* Everyone 2 years of age and older must wear a mask to enter the library locations.
* If you are unable to wear a mask the library has created accommodations for service including:
  + Curbside pick of library materials
  + Phone reference or virtual reference
  + Assisting with materials selection and placing holds on requested materials
  + Lobby computer station for computer use, scanning, printing, and copying
  + 24/7 public wifi available outside library locations

**FAQ Regarding Mask Use at the Crown Point Community Library**

* **Why do we have to wear a mask?**

The fight against COVID-19 is far from over and mask wearing is an effective way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 when paired with social distancing and other safety precautions the Library has put into place.

* **Is this a political decision?**

No. The Library has been committed to visitor and staff health and has required mask use by staff since reopening on June 15. The Library has strongly encouraged mask use for all visitors since reopening. The Library’s shift to requiring masks vs. strongly encouraging mask use is in response to the Governor’s request for all Hoosiers to “Mask Up” and in accordance with the Lake County Health Department Public Health Order 20-01 released on July 20.

* **Does my health condition exempt me from wearing a mask?**

The Library will make reasonable accommodations for service stated above, but due to the risk presented to other visitors and staff, visitors unable to wear a mask will not be able to enter the building beyond the library lobby at either location.

* **What will happen if I refuse to wear a mask?**

If a visitor is not willing to comply with the Library's mask request, for the health and well-being of others the individual will be asked to leave the library.The Library has created many new services to accommodate those unwilling to wear a mask or not comfortable entering a public building at this time.

* **What should I do if I see someone not wearing a mask?**

Although we understand your concern, please alert a staff member about the situation rather than approaching other visitors without a mask.

* **Is there a specific type of mask required?**

Face coverings or masks must completely cover nose & mouth and and be worn properly at all times while in the building.  Masks are preferred, but face shields are acceptable for visitors unable to wear a traditional mask.

* **Do I have to wear a mask the entire time I am in the Library?**

Yes, regardless of duration of visit, masks must be worn at all times.

* **Does my child need to wear a mask while visiting the library?**

Yes, all children aged 2 and over must wear a mask.

If you have any additional questions, please contact, Julie Wendorf, Library Director [jwendorf@crownpointlibrary.org](mailto:jwendorf@crownpointlibrary.org) or 219-306-8071