



NEXT PHASE REOPENING PLAN
Effective March 21, 2022

HOURS OF OPERATION

Main Library

Monday – Wednesday 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Thursday 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Friday – Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM

SoNo Branch

Monday 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
Tuesday 11:30 AM – 7:00 PM
Wednesday – Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM

[Gov. Lamont announced on February 7, 2022 that the statewide school mask requirements](#) would be lifted, effective February 28, 2022, transferring mask-wearing decisions to municipalities. [Mayor Rilling lifted the city-wide mask mandate](#) Thursday, February 24, 2022, noting a sustained decline in COVID19 case rates in Norwalk and the surrounding communities, as well as increased vaccination rates among residents. [The Center for Disease Control \(CDC\), as of March 3, 2022](#), suggests on its website that people can mask at any time, and offers a county tracker and what prevention steps should be taken based on the COVID-19 community level.

The Norwalk Public Library, in line with the City of Norwalk, has lifted the Library's mask mandate to offer mask choice to its patrons. This policy is tentative as we continue to watch the COVID-19 cases and variants and is, therefore, subject to modification.

Patrons may use both entrances at the main library and no longer have to sign in and out when they enter and exit either of our buildings. We do ask that patrons continue to follow [social distance requirements](#) out of respect for other who may be immunocompromised or uncomfortable being around people who choose not to wear masks.

SERVICES

The majority of Norwalk Public Library services have reinstated and sidewalk service will continue for the time being. **Sidewalk service will take place, Monday -Saturday, 10 AM – 2 PM.** Patrons will indicate to the reference points in both buildings if they want sidewalk service and reference will ask for the date and approximate time of pick up and give patrons circulation's phone number to call when they arrive. Reference will pull the items and give them to the circ. staff. The circ. staff can decide whether to integrate sidewalk service items with the other holds or dedicate a shelf for them and organize according to pick-up date/time. Circulation staff can ask for the guard's help, if needed, to get patrons' library cards when they arrive to pick up their items.

SERVICES TEMPORARILY ON HOLD

Passport service is not currently available.

PROGRAMS

ADULT

Programming for adults will take place in the community rooms at both locations with a capacity of 80 at the main library, and 50 at the SoNo branch. The same capacity will be the same for group visits.

YOUTH

Programming for youth, birth to 17, will take place in the children's activity rooms and the community rooms at both locations. The capacity for the activity rooms, at present, is 30 at the main library, and 10 at the SoNo Branch. The capacity for the community rooms, at present, is 80 at main and 60 at the SoNo Branch.

EMPLOYEE BREAK ROOM/CONFERENCE ROOMS

Please continue to follow [social distance requirements](#) out of respect for staff members who may be immunocompromised or uncomfortable being around people who choose not to wear masks.

THE BLUE TEAPOT

Blue Teapot customers may enjoy food and beverages together; however, if customers are uncomfortable sitting near people who choose not to wear masks, social distancing should be respected and followed.