

# Woods Memorial Library

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## March 17, 2020 update

Woods Memorial Library, the Barre Board of Library Trustees, and the Town of Barre take the health of its staff and patrons very seriously. As a precautionary measure against the spread of the highly-contagious COVID-19, **the library closed to the public effective Friday March 13, tentatively rescheduled to open to the public on Tuesday, April 7, acknowledging that we may need to extend the closure further.** We will continue to monitor the situation and reevaluate as necessary; any changes will be posted on our website, Facebook, and telephone voicemail message.

**If you do not currently have a library card and wish to use our electronic resources that require one, please contact the library by phone or email and we will set up a library card that you can use while we are closed.** If you wish to continue to use the library after we reopen—and we hope you will!—you will be able to make the card permanent by coming to the library with identification.

There was much discussion about the possibility of implementing a system for library users to pick up in-house items and holds during designated pickup times; however, we—like many libraries in Massachusetts—have decided with regret that we cannot pursue this due to safety concerns for our patrons and staff.

We are looking into the possibility of expanding our collection of electronic offerings via OverDrive and beyond. We are also investigating activities that can be done at a distance and free online resources being offered by other organizations and individuals, such as author readings. Details about any additional library resources and services offered will be posted to our website, with individual events and resources provided by others may also be included there and/or our Facebook page.

There will be no consequences for materials that are currently on hold or due back during the time of our closure, whether they are from our library or from other C/W MARS libraries (our library network). Due to the number of libraries that have closed and the suspension of delivery services between MA libraries, **C/W MARS will be extending due dates to May 1, 2020. Patron library cards with expiration dates between February 16 and April 30, 2020, will also be updated to May 1.** They will review and extend this as required. **During our closure, fines will not be charged for materials borrowed from other libraries that usually charge overdue fines.**

**We ask that patrons keep borrowed material at home until we reopen. The book return at the parking lot entrance is locked, since we are not able to disinfect it as frequently as patrons might use it. If items are left outside the library, patrons will be responsible for any damage or loss.**

Patrons may visit Overdrive by [clicking on the “Overdrive” link](#) on our homepage, or by downloading Libby, a free app available for download on Android and iOS devices to borrow e-content. From there, you can borrow e-books, e-audiobooks, and e-magazines for free by signing in with your library card and pin number.

For any questions or concerns, or for assistance navigating online resources, please do not hesitate to reach out to the library. We are here to help you.

Please stay healthy and safe!

Woods Memorial Library Staff  
Barre Board of Library Trustees