

Marshall Public Library is a Safe Zone

Libraries around the country are committed to the ideals of responsible freedom of press and speech. Marshall Public Library is no exception. We also seek to be compliant to lawful state and federal rules regarding public health, safety, and welfare. Thus, as we continue to promote the Illinois State Constitution's Article 1, and ensure the inherent and unalienable rights of our patrons to have different opinions, our policy regarding the wearing of masks is as follows:

- 1) For those individuals who are health vulnerable, or who feel more comfortable in public venues, masks will be provided upon request if personal supplies are not available.
- 2) For persons not choosing to wear masks, either because of vaccination status or personal choice, we ask for consideration of a respectful distance of 6 feet be provided to promote a culture where safety and mutual respect is maintained to those wearing masks.
- 3) For persons engaging in shared library activities, it is recommended each party determine their own level of personal comfort prior to participation.
- 4) As always, personal liberty that is thoughtful and mutually courteous is much appreciated.
- 5) Patrons who have illness symptoms are kindly requested to avoid participation in public venues.

Our country has had many instances where there has been strong sentiment regarding different issues – and as always, they are rich opportunities for personal and national growth. Marshall Public Library prides itself upon being a “Safe Zone”. A safe zone is a zone which a human feels safe, usually a familiar place where they feel they have some control over what happens there (Urban Dictionary). We are grateful for the opportunity to grow and learn along with you.

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