



From the State Library - March 19, 2020

## COVID-19 Update March 19, 2020: Handling Library Materials and Accessing SILO Webmail Remotely



### [Guidance from Iowa Department of Public Health on Handling Library Materials](#)

Today the State Library received guidance from the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) with recommendations on handling library materials in the midst of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Dr. Caitlin Pedati, medical director and state epidemiologist at the IDPH, issued the following message on the handling of library materials:

***The COVID-19 virus is typically transmitted via droplets after an infected individual coughs or sneezes. It is unlikely that someone could become infected by COVID-19 by handling a library book. Libraries should continue to clean acetate books covers and CD/DVD covers; and frequently touched environmental surfaces like door handles, computers, and restroom surfaces with an EPA registered disinfectant. Use all products according to the directions on the label.***

[List of EPA Registered Disinfectants](#)

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[SILO Webmail Remote Access](#)

With many librarians moving to remote work this week, keeping up with emails and phone messages can be challenging. Fortunately, SILO Webmail can be accessed via an internet browser from nearly anywhere.

**How to Access Secure Webmail:**

1. Navigate to <https://smail.silo.lib.ia.us/>. Your browser will show the lock icon and access to your email will be encrypted.
2. Enter your full e-mail address in the username field, i.e. user@cityname.lib.ia.us.
3. Enter your password.
4. Click the Enter into webmail button.

If you have lost or forgotten your password or need further assistance, contact your [District LRT](#).

It is important to remain responsive to the community by regularly checking and responding to emails and voicemail. Many voicemail systems are also able to be accessed from an outside phone. Contact your phone provider for instructions on how to access your voicemail remotely.

[Access Secure Webmail](#)

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