



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 16, 2020

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Danielle Rogers

Community Marketing Manager

O: 641-792-6622 x 2316 C: 641-521-9328

[danieller@newtongov.org](mailto:danieller@newtongov.org)

**NEWTON PUBLIC LIBRARY CLOSING THROUGH MARCH 29**

**NEWTON, IOWA** – The Newton Public Library Board is monitoring the news about the coronavirus (COVID-19) in order to make the best decisions possible to keep the library’s staff, patrons, and communities healthy and safe.

As a result, the Library will be closing as of 8 p.m. tonight (Monday, March 16th) and will remain closed through Sunday, March 29th, 2020. The Library Board and administration will keep an eye on updates concerning COVID-19 and make a decision by Friday, March 27th on whether the Library will open on Monday, March 30th. This is a fluid, unprecedented situation for the Library and the health and safety of our community and staff is of utmost importance.

While the Library is closed, the building will continue to be cleaned by our professional janitorial staff. Going forward, all items being returned to the Library will be wiped down with antibacterial cleaning solutions before returning to library shelves to limit the possible spread of COVID-19.

All library items that are currently checked out will now have a due date of April 1st, 2020. Any Newton Public Library card that is due to be updated between January 1st, 2020 to April 1st, 2020, will be automatically updated through April 15th to allow patrons access to our online materials, databases, and other online services.

The Library offers a large collection of digital materials, including eBooks, eMagazines, and eAudiobooks from Libby and Overdrive. These digital materials are free to Newton Public Library card holders and can be accessed from home by downloading the free Libby app from their app store. Please call the Library Information Desk at 641.792.4108 if you have questions about this service.

If anything changes in the future regarding Library hours and services, changes will be communicated to patrons and the community immediately.

###