

# CITY OF SISTERS COVID-19 Situation Report

By Cory Misley  
City Manager

Over the past couple of weeks Oregon has experienced increasing numbers of positive COVID-19 cases. It seems that is due to both more spread of the virus, including concentrated outbreaks and general community spread, as well as more testing.

Although this is alarming, fortunately Deschutes County still has not mirrored that trend. It is likely fair to say that it is as much preparation including social distancing, face coverings, and sanitation, as it is luck and other factors.

One thing that has been known and remains constant is that minimizing the spread and mitigating the risk is largely within our control and can be done with a few relatively simple precautions: social distancing, washing your hands frequently while avoiding touching your face, and wearing a face covering. Hearing that over and over sounds like a broken record, but there is wisdom in the expression “first we make our habits, then our habits make us.”

On June 24, the City

Council adopted resolutions extending policies and programs first established during and by way of the state of emergency declaration. The declaration occurred back in March and expired June 24. The declaration was critical to act swiftly during the emergence of the pandemic and the City did that in a multitude of ways over the past few months.

Although the City may not be in a declared state of emergency, that does not take away from the importance of maintaining precautions and a heightened sense of awareness. We are still in the first wave of COVID-19 and no one can say what the future will bring. We are fortunate to this point and should sustain a cautious optimism, while keeping a watchful eye on both what we can and cannot control as we head into July.

Every proactive measure helps — thank you for continuing to do your part keeping Sisters healthy and prosperous.

Information and links to small business resources can be found here: [www.ci.sisters.or.us/business/page/covid-19-small-business-resources](http://www.ci.sisters.or.us/business/page/covid-19-small-business-resources).

Learn more at [www.ci.sisters.or.us](http://www.ci.sisters.or.us)

# Library rolls out reading program

Times have changed, but what hasn't changed is Deschutes Public Library's commitment to a fun summer reading program. During the months of July and August, Summer With The Library incorporates the popular Beanstack app, with physical activities and reading challenges to do outside and around the house. Library customers can participate to track reading milestones and complete activity badges to be entered into the grand prize drawings.

While Summer With The Library is for people of all ages—children to adults—it takes on new significance for school-age kids this summer. With students being home since March, engaging in reading and literacy during the summer months is more important than ever. Summer with the Library is an interactive way to help ensure children retain reading and learning skills over summer vacation, curbing the “summer slide,” which typically happens when kids are out of school and they lose some of the reading gains made during the academic year.

“We're grateful to The

Roundhouse Foundation for their generosity, which allows us to pivot the Summer Reading program and make it accessible online,” said Todd Dunkelberg, executive director of Deschutes Public Library. “We know peoples' lives are still in flux, and this allows us to move the program forward in a dynamic new way.”

Each week a new set of activities and reading challenges introduced through the app allows participants to earn badges. For example, activities include trying a new word game, eating a vegetable for seven days, identifying a constellation in the night sky, or enjoying one minute of stillness. Badges can also be earned through reading challenges, such as choosing a book by its cover or reading a graphic novel. Also new this year are virtual programs for kids and teens, featuring STEAM activities released each week via Deschutes

Public Library's YouTube channel.

Summer With The Library takes place July 1 - August 31 with the grand prize winners announced after Labor Day. Prizes include gift cards and — new this year — e-reader tablets, which are donated by Bend Masonic Lodge #139. The program is free and open to all ages, and all participants get a prize at the end.

To take part, download the Beanstack app through the Apple App Store (iOS) or Google Play Store (Android), or access the Beanstack website from your computer's browser. Summer with the Library (Verano con la Biblioteca) is also available in Spanish. Enrollment begins on July 1.

Learn more at [www.deschuteslibrary.org/summer](http://www.deschuteslibrary.org/summer). Participants can share their Summer with the Library adventure by tagging the library on social media and using the #SummerwithDPL hashtag.



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