
*The Filson
Historical Society*

**COVID-19
Reopening Plan**



SEPTEMBER 2021

Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
SAFETY INFORMATION	3-5
Cleaning	3
Mask Policy	4
COVID Vaccination/Negative Test Policy	4
VISITOR INFORMATION	5-6
Hours	5
Tours	5
Exhibits	5
Research	6
Events	6
CONTACT INFORMATION	7

Introduction

The Filson Historical Society is excited to welcome the public back into our facilities starting September 1st, 2021. This plan outlines the measures that the Filson is implementing to safely bring staff back into the building and reopen to the public following our closure due to COVID-19. The Filson is observing best practices and the guidance provided by the state of Kentucky and the CDC, consequently this reopening plan is subject to change.

Safety Information

Procedures

The Filson is adopting procedures to ensure the safety of our visitors and staff. We are committed to putting safety first. We are asking all staff, volunteers, and visitors to follow these new policies.

What you can expect:

Cleaning

We will increase cleaning and sanitizing schedules throughout the Filson campus, including but not limited to bathrooms, common areas, elevators, handrails, and high touch areas.

Social Distancing

Guidelines for practicing social distancing are in effect throughout our campus. Please observe six feet of distance to those not in your group. Signage is posted to remind everyone of the required physical distance.

Mask Policy

We require that all visitors and staff wear masks or face coverings while inside the Filson. Children under two years old are not required to wear masks.

Proof of COVID-19 Immunization or Negative COVID-19 Test

Your health and safety are top priorities for us at the Filson Historical Society. Starting September 1st, we are requiring indoor visitors and staff to be fully vaccinated. Children under 12 years old are not required to be vaccinated. Please bring proof of full COVID-19 immunization when you visit the Filson. The vaccine card or a photo of the card will be accepted. Those unable to receive the vaccination will need to show proof of a negative COVID test within 48 hours of their planned visit, which would be a printed or electronic copy of their test results.

Sanitation Stations

Sanitation stations will be setup throughout our facilities for the convenience of everyone. Hand sanitizer will be provided at these stations. We encourage you to regularly sanitize or wash your hands when at the Filson.

Training

Staff and volunteers will receive training regarding these policies before returning to work.

Restroom Use

The restrooms in the Carriage House will be open for public use if you are visiting for a tour, research, or seeing the exhibits. Restrooms will be sanitized throughout the day.

If You are Feeling Sick

Please stay home if you are feeling ill or having symptoms of COVID-19. If you are on campus when you start to feel sick, please keep your mask on and let a staff member know before you leave.

We ask that all visitors and staff adhere to these new policies to protect the safety of everyone who comes to the Filson. If you have any concerns or questions during your visit, please make us aware. We will continue to improve these processes and update our procedures as guidance from the state of Kentucky and the CDC changes.

Visitor Information

Hours

The Filson will be open Monday through Friday 9 am – 4:30 pm. At this time Filson lectures will remain virtual via Zoom. Please check the [events calendar](#) for more information about our weekly programming.

Tours

Beginning on September 1, 2021, the Filson will resume free tours of our historic campus every weekday at 2pm. Tours must be reserved in advance and are limited to a small number each day. [Reserve your tour time via our online portal.](#) Visitors will tour the campus, including the Ferguson Mansion and Carriage House, two rotating galleries featuring thematic exhibits from the Filson's collections, and the Owsley Brown II History Center. Masks, proof of COVID-19 immunization or negative COVID test, and adherence to social distancing are required on all tours.

Exhibits

Our rotating exhibits will be open to the public free of charge during our regular hours of 9-4:30. Check out our current exhibits [here](#). Masks, proof of COVID-19 immunization or negative COVID test, and adherence to social distancing are required throughout the exhibit space.

Tours must be reserved in advance

Research

In-person research is available during our regular hours of 9-4:30. If you know your research and travel plans in advance of your visit, please let us know! Send us an email to research@filsonhistorical.org or call us at 502.635.5083. This will allow us to streamline your research visit and ensure a seat for you given capacity restrictions. Walk-in research is available, but please be aware that capacity is limited and there is a possibility that we will not be able to accommodate you on the day of your visit. Please note there is a research fee of \$10 per day for non-members and a photocopy fee of \$0.25 per page for all researchers. Masks and proof of COVID-19 immunization or negative COVID test are required during research appointments.

Events

Filson lectures will remain virtual at this time via Zoom. Please check the [events calendar](#) for more information about our weekly programming and to subscribe to AddEvents allowing our programs to populate your digital calendar as a reminder to register.

What can you bring with you?

Each visitor will need to bring their own mask and proof of COVID-19 immunization or negative COVID test. If you are attending a tour, please bring you ticket, either digitally or printed out. Large bags, backpacks, luggage, food, and drinks are not permitted inside the exhibits, during research, or on tours. Lockers are available for free and will be sanitized after every use.

Contact Information

If you have any questions for us, we are happy to answer them. Please contact us at 502.635.5083 or email us at info@filsonhistorical.org.