

OSSINING PUBLIC LIBRARY

CIRCULATION POLICY

The Board of Trustees of the Ossining Public Library encourages the use and borrowing of the library's print and non-print materials. The library seeks to have as few restrictions on the flow of information as possible while protecting its resources. In order to provide an adequate selection and equal access to materials, the Library may charge overdue fines and sets limits on the length of loan periods, renewals and reserves.

The library does not maintain records of what individuals have borrowed and returned in the past, except when past bills have not been paid or materials have not been returned or when patrons request through the automated system to keep a history of their checkouts. The library will not disclose a borrower's personal information to others unless required to do so by law.

Borrowing Privileges

Adults and children who live in the Ossining Union Free School District are eligible for a free library card. Adults and children who live outside Westchester County and who work, attend school, or own property in Ossining are eligible for a free library card. The card will be honored at all Westchester County public libraries. Appropriate personal identification is required with proof of name and street address of residence. Those who reside outside Westchester County must provide proof of school attendance, place of work, or ownership of property in Ossining as well the street address of residence. A parent's or guardian's identification is required for children under 12 or in grade 6 and under. Users are responsible for notifying the library of subsequent address, phone number, e-mail or name change.

The borrowing privileges of a library card holder in good standing are limited only by the restrictions upon specific kinds of circulating materials. Restrictions may include, but are not limited to, type of material, number of books on a particular subject and total number of items that may be borrowed at any time.

Library users are responsible for the library materials checked out on their cards and for overdue fines which may be charged by other libraries and charges incurred for lost or damaged materials. If a library card is lost or stolen, the user must notify the library immediately. The library may charge a fee to replace a lost library card.

To ensure confidentiality and expedite service, library users must present a library card in order to borrow materials. Should the library user not have his or her library card, the library will require valid photo ID with name and address for identification.

Renewals

Material may be renewed automatically or in person, online and by phone. Material may be renewed for one additional circulation period. An item may not be renewed when it is on reserve for another library user. There is no limit on the number of items that may be renewed. The library is also enrolled in Automatic Renewal. Any items borrowed at the Ossining Library will automatically be renewed for another renewal period as long as those materials are eligible for renewal. Library users will receive an email notifying them of items which were renewed and which ones were not able to be renewed.

See attached Materials Lending Schedule for details.

Reserves

Requests for material owned by the Ossining Public Library and other libraries within the Westchester Library System may be placed in person, online, or by phone. Regular circulating material other than Speed Reads, Express DVDs, non-traditional items and magazines may be reserved. Library users are notified by telephone or e-mail when reserved material becomes available. Items are held for 7 days after the notice is sent.

Interlibrary Loan

Requests for the interlibrary loan of print materials owned by libraries outside the Westchester County Library System are accepted at the Reference Desk. Library users are notified by telephone or e-mail when materials become available. Items are held for 7 days after notice is sent. Borrowing rules are set by the Westchester County Library System and may vary.

Overdue Fines and Fees

See attached Materials Lending Schedule. The library reserves the right to use a collection agency to collect long outstanding fines and fees.

Lost or Damaged Material

The Library charges full replacement cost for materials which are lost or damaged so badly that they can no longer be used. Patrons may have the option of replacing the lost or damaged material with an item in good condition that duplicates the content and format of the lost or damaged copy. If permitted, they must do so within 30 days of receiving the bill. If lost material is returned within 30 days of payment or replacement, the patron will receive a refund, less the fine. If the replacement cost cannot be easily determined, the library will use default prices as determined by the Westchester County Library System.

Suspension of Borrowing Privileges

The Library may deny borrowing privileges to library users who accumulate overdue fines or fees or fail to return lost material with cumulative replacement costs exceeding \$50.00. If a patron account has fines, fees, and/or replacement costs in excess of \$25.00, the Library reserves the right to use the services of an outside agency to collect the monies owed and/or the materials. In such an event, the Library may include an additional fee to the patron account for the cost of hiring the outside agency. Borrowing privileges will be reinstated upon restitution.

Adopted May 20, 2009 by the Ossining Public Library Board of Trustees. Revised June 15, 2009 by the Ossining Public Library Board of Trustees

Revised Second Reading and Approval by the Board of Trustees, January 27, 2014

Revised Revision approved by Board of Trustees October 21, 2024

DRAFT Revision 12/13/2024

Revised Revision approved by Board of Trustees December 16, 2024

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Materials Lending Schedule

Materials	Loan Period	Limits	Fines	Renewal (Unless on Reserve)
Audiobooks	3 weeks	none	none	1
Blood Pressure Cuffs	3 months	1	none	1
Books	3 weeks	none	none	1
Chromebooks (long-term)	3 months	1	\$1.00/day \$25.00 max	1
DVD TV Series	2 weeks	7	none	1
DVDs	1 week	7	none	1
Express DVDs	3 days	2	none	0
Explorer Bags	2 weeks	1	none	0
Great Courses audio	3 weeks	7	none	1
Great Courses DVDs	2 weeks	7	none	1
Hotspots (long-term)	3 months	1	\$1.00/day \$25.00 max	1
Hotspots (short-term)	3 weeks	1	none	1
Magazines - Children's	3 weeks	6	none	0
Magazines-Adult	1 week	6	none	0
Magazines- YA	1 week	6	none	0
Musical Instruments	3 weeks	none	\$1.00/day \$25.00 max	1
Museum Passes	1 week	1 per family except Frick	\$3/day \$20.00 max	0
Music CDs	3 weeks	none	none	1
Outdoor Games	2 weeks	none	none	0
Playaways	3 weeks	6	none	1
Speed Reads	1 week	10	none	0
Video Games	2 weeks	2	\$3.00/day \$20.00 max	0
Wonderbooks	3 weeks	none	\$.10/day \$3.00 max	1

LOST LIBRARY CARDS: If you lose your library card, there is a \$1 fee for replacing it.

12/10/2024