



Collection Development Policy

Park County Public Library

Our dedicated staff at Park County Public Libraries (PCPL) provides free and convenient access to diverse viewpoints, opinions, and ideas. Their decisions, guided by this policy, ensure that our collections remain valuable, relevant, current, and integral to the diverse communities we serve.

PCPL recognizes that it is impossible to collect all the published data. Physical space and a finite budget will limit what we can purchase for the residents of Park County. However, PCPL is committed to providing a collection that meets our communities' educational, recreational, cultural, and informational needs. These needs are determined by circulation statistics, community demographic information, surveys, patron requests, and professional judgment based on events and trends within the community.

Selection Criteria

Not all criteria need to be met for materials to be selected, but because of budget and space limitations, materials that meet most of the requirements will be prioritized. Standards and criteria employed for selection decisions include:

- Demonstrated interest, need, or demand by current or potential patrons, including patron requests
- Contemporary significance, widespread interest, or permanent value
- Relevance to the experiences and interests of Park County residents
- Quality, accuracy, clarity, and usability
- Critics' reviews or peer reviews
- Significance of the creators, including their popularity and authority
- Recent publication date or currency
- Format, durability, and ease of use
- Scarcity or availability of materials elsewhere
- Value of resource concerning its cost
- Physical space required for shelving and display
- Local significance or interest
- Locally produced or created content

Scope of Collection

- While supporting PCPL's mission, values, and strategic roadmap, the most potent influences on the library's collection are widespread interest and current usage
- PCPL collects materials in various popular physical and electronic formats.
- PCPL's collection provides materials reflecting a variety of viewpoints, as availability allows. PCPL supports free and open access to information and ideas as stated in the Library Bill of Rights, the Freedom to Read, and the Freedom to View policies of the American Library Association.

Per the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights: "Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation." Selection of materials does not constitute or imply agreement with or approval of the content, viewpoint, implications, or presentation of the materials.

- Materials for children and teenagers are intended to broaden their vision, support recreational reading, encourage and facilitate reading skills, supplement their educational needs, stimulate and widen their interests, lead to recognition and appreciation of literature, and reflect the diversity of the community and our world. It is the parent(s), and only the parent(s), responsible for guiding their children, and only their own children, in using and accessing library materials.
- The collection is not archival, except for materials in the Colorado Section, and is reviewed regularly.

Purchase Suggestions

We encourage Park County residents to participate in building a collection that accurately reflects the community's needs and interests. Residents can suggest titles for purchase. All suggestions will be reviewed using the criteria outlined above.

Resource Sharing

PCPL participates in several cooperative resource-sharing networks, including AspenCat, Prospector, and an interlibrary loan service, to expand the range of materials available to patrons while minimizing duplication of infrequently used materials already owned by other libraries.

Gifts and Donations

All donations become the property of PCPL. Designated library staff decide whether to retain gift items. Donations of money for the purchase of materials are always welcome. Suggestions of specific titles or subjects to be purchased with donated funds will be honored whenever possible and in keeping with this Collection Development Policy. PCPL does not appraise gifts or provide evaluations for tax deductions or other purposes but will acknowledge receipt of gifts in writing if the donor requests.

Retention and Deselection of Materials

To maintain a collection of current and relevant library materials that meet the needs of Park County residents, library staff assess materials for retention. The standards and criteria employed for retention decisions include:

- Condition
- Popularity
- Currency

- Availability elsewhere
- Number of copies in the collection

Withdrawn materials are dispensed of in various ways, including donations to other entities, used book sales, waste disposal, and recycling programs.

Responsibility for Selection

The Park County Libraries Board of Trustees delegates to the Library Manager the authority and responsibility for selecting and managing all collections within the framework of this policy. The Library Manager entrusts these responsibilities to professional staff on the Collection Management team.

Reconsideration of Library Materials

In accordance with Senate Bill 24-216, Park County Libraries fully supports and believes in the freedom of information for all and, therefore, does not practice censorship. Notwithstanding, community members can challenge PCPL to reconsider library materials.

All requests to reconsider materials must be written in writing using PCPL's Request for Reconsideration form, available at any Park County Library location and online: <http://parkcounty.colibraries.org>. Completed forms go to designated staff who review the request about the library's written policies. Individuals may submit up to five Requests for Reconsideration forms per month. Only forms filled out in full by Park County residents will be given full consideration and review. The Library Manager then reviews the request and replies in writing within thirty days of receipt. The Library Board of Trustees will be notified of all Requests for Reconsideration received. The item in question will not be removed from the shelf during reconsideration.

REVIEWED AND ADOPTED ON: 10/17/2024

PCPL Library Manager: Rita Mick

PCPL Board President: Barbara Hickok

PCPL Board Secretary: Tonya Favinger