

In purchasing new materials, the Library makes a distinction between those that depict prejudice as an aspect of real life and those that offer derogatory stereotypes as valid representations. The latter are not added to the collection. However, materials that authentically portray a period or way of life are accepted even if stereotyping is included. Materials that portray the prejudices of real or fictional characters are also considered acceptable. Materials recognized as classics are acceptable even though they may contain passages widely viewed as objectionable by current standards.

- The library does not purchase out-of-print materials for the collection.
- Professional and special materials, such as legal, medical, and religious works, are purchased only if they are of general interest.
- The Library does not support educational curriculums through the purchase of textbooks. Textbooks may be added to the collection if they provide the best or only source of information on a subject, or to complement an existing area with another perspective.
- No attempt is made to purchase all the works by a certain author.
- Periodicals are added to the collection on the basis of need.
- Audiovisual material is added to the Library's collection with consideration to patron demand and budget constraints. The Library acquires this material primarily in the most popular format.
- Local history materials are confined to the printed word. The Library does not attempt to include artifacts as part of the collection.
- Books by local authors and books on local matters may be purchased even though they may not meet the standards set forth for the general collection.
- The Library accepts gifts of library materials, but reserves the right to evaluate and to dispose of such gifts in accordance with the criteria applied to purchased materials.
- Children's materials are purchased by the same general principles that govern selection of adult materials. Responsibility for the choice of reading material for minors rests with their parents or guardians. Selection of materials for the library collection is not restricted by the possibility that minors may obtain materials their parents consider inappropriate, nor are children limited to the children's collection.

Weeding Policy

The Library continually withdraws items from the collection, basing its policy on the elimination of outdated materials, materials no longer of interest or in demand, unneeded duplicates, and worn or mutilated material and is at the discretion of the Library Director. Frequency of circulation, community interest, and availability of newer or more valid materials are prime considerations. Items dealing with local history are an exception, as are certain classics and award-winning children's books. Fiction that was once popular but no longer in demand, and non-fiction books that are no longer useful, are withdrawn from the collection.