Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What are library hours?

A. Monday - Thursday 10:00am - 9:00pm; Friday & Saturday 10:00am - 6:00pm; Sunday 1:00pm - 6:00pm.

Q. Where can I return library materials?

A. The library maintains 2 bookdrops on-site (on the front of the library and in the parking lot) and also offers 5 other drops throughout the city for your convenience.

Q. How do I contact the library?

A. The library main number is 503.636.7628. Contact information for specific departments may be found on the Contact Us page.

Q. How do I get a library card?

A. You can get a Lake Oswego Public Library card free of charge if you live within our service area--this includes participating library districts within the Portland Metro area and Clark County. Please bring your ID and proof of address to the library to get a card. You can also apply for a card online. If you have questions, please call us at 503.636.7628.

Q. How do I find out about storytimes?

A. You can contact the Youth Services department at 503.697.6580 or visit our Storytimes and Programs page**.**

Q. Can my child be left alone in the library?

A. Our policy is that children 10 and up can be in the library unattended; however, we would like to remind parents that even though we work hard to keep the library safe for everyone, the library is a public place and library staff are unable to watch children who are left alone at the library. For more information, please read our Unattended Children policy.

Q. I'd like to read a good book, but nothing is coming to mind.

A. Our librarians are trained to provide readers' advisory service. Call 503.697.6581 or take a look at our Popular Materials page for resources to help you find a book, music, or DVD.

Q. Is there anything for teens to do at the library?

A. Yes! Teens come to the library to study, meet with friends and participate in programs. Take a look at our Teens page or call a Youth Services librarian at 503.697.6580.

Q. Does the library have a scanner?

A. The library has several scanners and non-color copy machines and a color printer (25 cents per page).

Q. How do I download library eBooks?

A. We provide eBooks through Library2Go and Ebrary. For detailed assistance please call 503.675.2540.

Q. How do I donate books to the library?

A. You can drop off new or gently used books at the checkout desk on the first floor of the library. Books are sent to the Friends' bookstore, the Booktique, for resale. The Friends offer back their proceeds to the library to purchase new materials in all formats and to pay for programming.

Q. What happens if Lake Oswego Public Library doesn't have the item I want?

If the item is in the catalog

A. You can place a hold on the item and you will be contacted as soon as it is available for you to pick up. Use the library catalog to locate and place holds on items or call the reference department at 503.675.2540 and we can do this for you.

If the item is not in the catalog

A. If the item is not in the catalog, we can try to borrow it for you via our Interlibrary Loan service from a library outside of Clackamas County. For more information on Interlibrary Loan contact the reference department at 503.675.2540 or email us with the title, author and date of publication, as well as with your contact information.

I'd like the library to buy a copy for the collection

A. To suggest an item for purchase call either the reference or adult services department at 503.675.2540 or 503.697.6581 or email us with the title, author and date of publication, as well as with your contact information.

Q. Something is showing up on my account that I am pretty sure I returned.

A. If you are certain that an item that is showing as lost on your record was returned to the library, please call the Circulation Department. We will do our best to help resolve the issue.

Q. I want to keep my items past their due date.

A. You can renew your items by phone or in person as long as no one else is on hold for the book: renewal details.

Q. I've placed a book on hold, but I'm going to be away on vacation for a couple of weeks. What if the book becomes available while I'm gone?

A. We can arrange to suspend and un-suspend your holds so that they will not become available until after you return (you will not lose your place in line for the book). Call 503.636.7628 for assistance.

Q. Do you have a meeting room for the public?

A. The library has one meeting room that can accommodate approximately 12 people. The room may be reserved Monday - Thursday after 6:00pm and Friday - Sunday during open hours; however, the room may be reserved no more than two weeks in advance. Call 503.675.2540 to make a reservation.

Q. I'd like to perform or show my artwork at the library. How do I go about doing this?

A. Please contact Jane Carr at 503.534.5665 or jcarr@ci.oswego.or.us.

Q. Does the library have wireless?

A. Yes, the library has an unsecured wireless connection available on the first and second floors.

Q. How do I go about volunteering at the library?

A. For information about volunteering at the library take a look at our Volunteer Services page.

Q. More questions?

A. Contact us! Call 503.636.7628 or email.

For details about our policies please look at the Official Policies link below:

Web Links

Official Policies

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