



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BULLITT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY ELIMINATES LATE FEES

SHEPHERDSVILLE— Bullitt County Public Library (BCPL) has permanently eliminated fines on late materials. “No More Late Fees!” Effective immediately, BCPL will no longer charge fees on late materials.

All previous overdue fees fines have already been forgiven. Eliminating fines allows our customers greater access to all of the resources available at the library including books, DVDs, online classes, eMedia and more. **It’s important to note that patrons will still be responsible for returning items and paying for any lost or damaged materials.**

Bullitt County Public Library Director Joe Schweiss said, “Public libraries provide vital resources that can improve quality of life throughout our communities. Individuals, families, businesses, adults, children—the world comes through our doors and networks. We want to encourage more people to come to the library, and eliminating fines will eliminate barriers and provide equitable access for all. The fact that it should lead to the return of more library materials, reducing the costs associated with repurchasing lost items, is just a bonus.”

BCPL's Board of Trustees approved the elimination of fines in October. Director Schweiss added, “We want to join libraries across the country who recognize that fines merely create a barrier to library services that disproportionately affects the people who need access the most. Eliminating fines encourages patrons to return overdue materials, thereby making them available to others once again.”

All BCPL customers will still receive notices when items are due, and again if items are not returned. Patrons must either return or pay to replace overdue items after 45 days, or be suspended

MAIN LIBRARY & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Ridgway Memorial Library ▪ 127 N. Walnut Street ▪ P.O. Box 99 ▪ Shepherdsville, KY 40165

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from checking out additional material. To restore their ability to check out, patrons must return items or pay for any lost materials.

Library-goers will now be able to renew items up to three times if no one else is waiting for them. The library will send reminders via email, text, and phone to help borrowers remember to make their returns.

Schweiss added, "If you're a little bit late in returning that book, that's okay, we want you to come back."

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