

Timberland Libraries will be

CLOSED

In honor of
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
on Monday,
January 20, 2020



Timberland Libraries are now Fine Free!

WE ARE FOCUSED ON REMOVING BARRIERS TO LIBRARY ACCESS

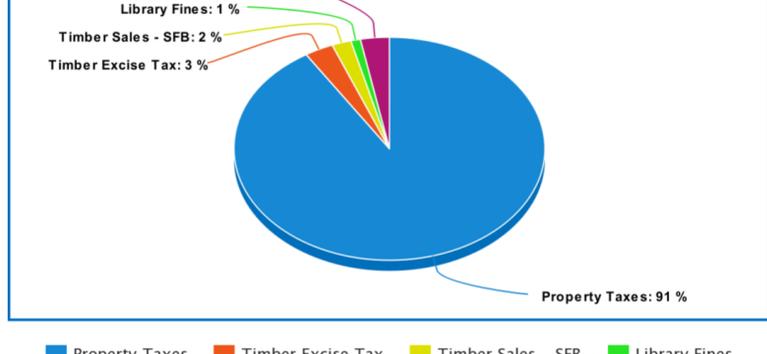
The TRL Board of Trustees voted on December 18, 2019 to remove fines for our patrons effective January 1, 2020

Exciting News!

Starting January 1, 2020, TRL is no longer charging overdue fees on our collection materials. In addition, we are currently working with our system vendor to remove existing overdue fines.

Why are we making this change while facing budget challenges?

Research has shown that overdue fines act as an emotional barrier for many people and create a disproportionate financial impact on many in our communities. Library fines represent less than 1% of TRL's overall revenue and data indicates that it is costing more in staff time to collect overdue fines than TRL receives in fines revenue - Revenue Summary Chart below -



"We've heard from patrons who have stopped using library services altogether because they can't pay their fines, or they worry about being judged for being unable to pay. They're not attending programs, accessing online resources, asking for help in finding a job, or utilizing the library in any other way that would enrich their lives." Stephanie B., our senior circulation supervisor in Tumwater shares "eliminating overdue fines is a means to bringing people back into the library and supporting our communities."

Patrons are still responsible for ensuring that items are returned by the due date. This Fines Free policy does not impact fees for lost and damaged items, those charges will remain on patron accounts. Items overdue for longer than 28 days will be considered lost, and patrons will incur a replacement fee for the item. Accounts with more than \$10 in fees will have their borrowing privileges suspended until the item is returned or the replacement fee is paid.

Library staff can assist you with any questions!

Something for Everyone



Happy New Year!

Come join us on this exciting new three year journey as TRL's **2020-2022 Strategic Direction** begins. Our focus will be on you, our local communities, on equity, diversity & inclusion, and on children birth through five. We will continue to offer core services through our incredible collections, programs for all ages, and our best resource of all... our amazing library staff.

Recently selected from current staff, we will be introducing patrons to their new Library Supervisors at the Amanda Park, Westport, Hoodport, Winlock, Packwood, Salkum, and Tenino libraries. We will also showcase four new Community Engagement Librarians doing outreach in our service area to communities without a physical library building.

Here are some great ways to stay engaged:

- Access our [Open Data Portal](#), where you can learn all sorts of data about programs, technology, collection and budget
- Discover [online resources](#) to learn about services, check out [something new](#) from the [collection](#), or attend local [events & programs](#)
- Share what you learn with us, and as many people as possible, be the one to say, "I learned this... because of the library" on [social media](#)

Did you read the exciting news above about TRL going **Fine Free** to support our focus on access for all? We hope you'll share this change with your family, friends, neighbors, and acquaintances and bring them with you to your local Timberland location! We all know someone who needs to come back to the library, or even to get their first library card.

We are excited to incorporate the wonderful ideas that you, our patrons and residents, shared with us during last year's planning process and we are glad to be on this journey together. Our goal is always to provide the best public library experience to each and every one of our 518,000 residents in Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston counties.

I'll see you at the library,

Cheryl

Cheryl Heywood
Executive Director

Timberland Regional LIBRARY

2020-2022 STRATEGIC DIRECTION

VISION

Libraries connecting to our communities.

MISSION

Welcoming everyone to a vibrant world of possibilities.

Connecting people, places, and ideas.

Evolving to meet the needs of our communities.

We Value

Access for all.

Working together.

Disperse communities and ideas.

Responsible use of public resources.

We Will Focus On

Local communities.

- Sharing local culture.
- Increasing our presence in under-served communities.
- Creating opportunities for inter-generational connection.

Equity, diversity, and inclusion.

- Reflecting those with disabilities and other access barriers.
- Reaching under-represented groups in our collections, staff, and services.
- Partnering with local agencies and organizations to support diverse communities.

Children from birth to five.

- Providing appealing spaces and engaging experiences.
- Clarifying what they need and how to provide for those needs.
- Empowering them to build relationships with the library & within their communities.

BORROW

Assistive Devices
eBooks and Books
Movies
Audiobooks

PARTICIPATE

Storytimes
Book Groups
Arts & Crafts
Meeting Space

DISCOVER

Legal Forms
Auto Repair
Homework Help
History & Genealogy

CONNECT

Wifi
Printing
Computers
Job Search

We will continue to offer our traditional library services at our physical locations.

For more information: trl.org/2020-2022-strategic-direction

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Happy New Year!

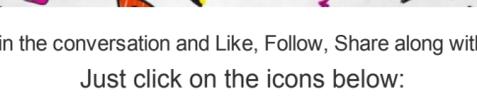
Celebrating the Year of the Rat in 2020

In Japan, the New Year is celebrated on January 1. Other Asian countries will celebrate on January 25 in 2020. This year's Zodiac, celebrated by all, is Rat. This special image created by Japanese calligraphy artist Chiyo Sanada depicts the character for Luck (orange background). Chiyo works at the Yelm Timberland Library, and is also on the faculty at Saint Martin's University.

SOCIAL MEDIA

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TRL.org

Timberland Regional Library district provides for the entertainment, information, and lifelong learning needs of Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston county residents at 27 community public libraries and seven library service partner locations. The library system is funded mainly by local property taxes, timber tax, fundraising efforts of TRL Friends of the Library, and generous donations by individual supporters. Anyone needing special accommodations to participate in a library's programs may contact the library one week in advance. All Timberland programs are free and open to the public. For more information visit TRL.org