

Weller Public Library Collection Development Policy

June, 2023

A collection development policy is created to ensure public awareness of Weller Library's individual policy.

Library Materials

Books and other library resources in a variety of formats will be provided for the interest, information, education, and enrichment of all residents of Waitsburg.

Materials will not be excluded due to the origin, identity, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.

Diversity of Materials

A diverse collection should contain content by and about a wide array of people and cultures to authentically reflect a variety of ideas, information, stories, and experiences.

WPL respects the diversity of all viewpoints and information needs within the community and strives to support all individuals through the local collection and/or the provision of materials through Washington Anytime Library.

WPL will continually develop the collection by adding, removing, and replacing resources to maintain a collection of current interest and usefulness to the community of Waitsburg.

WPL collection

The library collection will contain materials representing a wide range of non-fiction topics, fiction genres, authors, performers, and styles.

Selection of materials Responsibility

The Librarian is responsible for the selection of materials. Direct selection of library materials is performed by the Librarian.

Selection Criteria

The materials selection criteria provide a framework and guide in the selection of materials. They are intended to be inclusive rather than exclusive.

They prompt us to evaluate multiple factors in determining what to add to and retain in our collection, understanding that our space and budget are limiting factors in the size and scope of our collection.

- Current and anticipated needs and interests of the community
- Evaluations in review media
- Accuracy and timeliness of content
- Author's, artist's, publisher's, or producer's qualifications and/or reputation
- Contribution to diversity or breadth of collection
- Receipt of or nominations for major awards or prizes; or inclusion of title in standard bibliographies or indexes
- Cost

Purchase Suggestions and Gifts

The Library will be responsive to public suggestions of titles and subjects to be included in the library collection when these requests meet selection criteria.

Remaining requests may be met through accessing online eBooks through Washington Anytime Library/Libby.

Gifts of materials may be accepted with the understanding that the same standards of selection are applied to gifts as to materials acquired by purchase, and that any gifts may be passed on to Friends of the WPL or discarded at the Librarian's discretion.

Intellectual Freedom

The Weller Public Library neither encourages nor discourages any particular viewpoint.

No library materials that meet the WPL's selection criteria shall be excluded or removed because of the origin, background, or views of the author or those contributing to its creation.

Selection of materials does not mean endorsement of the content, or the views expressed in those materials.

Not all materials will be suitable for all members of the community.

The library collection will be organized and maintained to facilitate access.

There will be no prejudicial labeling or alteration of materials because of controversy surrounding the author or the subject matter.

No library materials will be sequestered except for the express purpose of protecting them from damage or theft.

The Board of Trustees and the WPL promotes and defends the principles of intellectual freedom based on the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

The Supreme Court and other courts have held conclusively that there is a First Amendment right to receive information as a corollary to the right to speak.

While anyone is free to reject for themselves materials of which they do not approve, they cannot exercise this right of censorship to restrict the freedom of others to read or inquire.

Parents and guardians have the responsibility and right to guide their own minor children's use of the library and its resources and services. WPL does not stand in loco parentis (that is, in place of a parent, or charged with a parent's rights, duties and responsibilities).

WPL's goal is to make available resources encompassing a diversity of views and opinions. To support this goal, Weller Public Library Board of Trustees has adopted the following documents from the American Library Association and the Washington Library Association:

Library Bill of Rights

Freedom to Read Statement

Freedom to View

Diverse Collections: An interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights
Access to Library Resources and Services for Minors
WLA Statement: Intellectual Freedom and the Freedom to Read
WLA Statement: Diverse Collections

Reconsideration of Materials

The Library recognizes the right of individuals to express their opinions about materials in the library collection. The Library will give serious consideration to each patron's concerns. Materials under consideration will remain available to patrons until a decision is made.

In the event that no resolution is reached, please refer to the Request for Reconsideration of Materials Form. All forms submitted are subject to public disclosure.

Because WPL adheres to the First Amendment rights of freedom of speech and the corollary right to receive information, a formal reconsideration of materials will review whether the material was selected in accordance with the Collection Development Policy, and whether it is shelved (located) in the most appropriate section of the library.

Collection Maintenance

The Library will continually develop the collection by adding and removing resources to maintain a collection of current interest and usefulness to the community of Waitsburg.

In addition to Selection Criteria, the following factors will be used to determine when an item should be removed or replaced:

- Condition of the item
- Recent and anticipated usage of the item
- Particular local interest
- Current or historical significance of author or subject
- Availability of updated material in the subject area
- Availability to patrons in another format (such as large print or electronic resources)

Disposal of Library Materials

In order to maintain a collection that best serves the community, the Library must periodically withdraw library materials (books, magazines, DVDs, CDs, etc.) from the collection for a variety of reasons, according to library best practices.

Library materials will be disposed of according to the following priorities:

1. By making them available at no charge to local organizations or individuals, if the materials are in good condition and of practical use or interest.
2. By reusing the materials for art and craft projects.
3. By recycling paper and other recyclable products.
4. By discarding as waste any materials that cannot be otherwise reused or recycled.