

Millville Free Public Library Collection Development Policy

Millville Library Collection Development Goals

The goal of the Millville Library is to provide materials that meet the educational, informational and recreational needs of the people of Millville. The town of Millville is a community of approximately 3,300 people located in Southeastern, MA. Materials are selected with a concern for all ages, abilities and educational level. The library endeavors to offer a well-developed and well-balanced collection.

Collection Development Process

The librarian selects for the community as a whole. Although it is not possible for the library to purchase all materials needed to satisfy the special interests of an individual patrons, such materials can often be obtained through inter-library loan. Because the library strives to satisfy the needs and desires of its community population, the librarian relies heavily upon “patron-driven acquisition”, i.e., ordering books and other materials that have been recommended for the collection by Millville library patrons. In addition to patron requests for materials, the librarian also relies on current best seller listings such as those from Publishers Weekly, the New York Times, and Good Reads. The librarian also follows listings of books written by popular authors and published as series collections. Millville patrons often request series titles and these books circulate regularly, so the librarian orders recently published titles from these well-liked series.

The American Library Association recommends that *...libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.* The library strives to collect materials providing all points of view on a topic. Inclusion of an item does not indicate library endorsement of its contents. Each reader is privileged to select for him/herself from materials the library has purchased, and no one is obliged to read what s/he does not like.

The Millville Free Public Library is strongly opposed to censorship and the practice of banning books of any kind.

Millville library patrons are invited and welcome to recommend an item purchase to the librarian and/or discuss any item held by the library.

Children’s and Young Adult Collection

Materials for the Children’s Collection are selected to provide pleasurable reading for readings sake, to enrich the child’s literary tastes, and to foster a lifelong love of learning. The

library endeavors to include informational material in all fields of interest to children. Responsibility for a child's reading and the information a child is able to handle at his/her stage of development rests with the child's parents.

The Young Adult Collection serves teenagers in junior and senior high school. The collection is developed to meet the recreational, developmental, and informational needs of this age group. The overall merit of a work will be taken into consideration, including its accuracy, interest, and value.

Both our Young Adult and Children's collections benefit from recommendations supplied by our active Junior Friends group. The Millville Library does add to its collection to support summer reading lists supplied by the local school district.

Authority and Responsibility for Maintenance of Library Collections

Final authority for the determination of the policies in this document is vested in the library's Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees endorses the ALA Intellectual Freedom Statement, the Library Bill of Rights, and the Freedom to View. The Millville Free Public Library Director, through training and experience and the authority given her by the library's Trustees, has the responsibility for selection and discard of materials and to advise on their use. Materials are regularly discarded from the library's collection because they are out-of-date, worn, damaged, or no longer popular.

Rev 2/8/23 DSM