

Milford Public Library Board Adopts Fine Free Policy

In order to provide equitable access to library materials and services for all patrons, Milford Public Library will become fine free beginning May 1st, 2023. This means there will no longer be any overdue fines on print or audiobooks, music, movies or magazines checked out at Milford Public Library. If you have old fines (before December 31st, 2022) on your library card, they will be forgiven. Lost or damaged materials will still go on your library card (replacement costs for what you lost or damaged). This policy shall apply solely to those items borrowed on site at Milford Public Library including items transited from other Evergreen Indiana Libraries, IN-SHARE, or the Statewide Remote Circulation Services (SRCS). Items borrowed at another Evergreen Indiana Library, or renewed at another Evergreen Library using a participating member card shall be subject to the policies of that library.

Once the cost of lost/damaged items on your card reaches \$10, your card will be blocked at all Evergreen Indiana locations. If you have 15 or more overdue items, your card will also be blocked at all Evergreen locations.

Your account will be charged with replacement costs for any items not returned within 28 days of their due date. If you return said item in good condition, the library will forgive the cost of that item. The library will not issue refunds for lost items that have been paid for and later returned.

“Everyone on the library staff and board are very happy to become a Fine Free Library,” said Library Director, Julie Frew. “We want everyone in our service area to have and use a library card. Getting fines keeps some people from getting a card because they do not want to risk accumulating overdue charges. Since the Chicago Public Library went Fine Free in 2019, we have been tracking fines and hoping we could also become a Fine Free Library.” So, if getting fines has been keeping you and your family from using our library, come in and register for a card today! If you live in Van Buren or East Jefferson Townships, a part of your property tax goes to the library, resulting in no additional fee for your card. Our non-resident fee is \$60.00 a year. We hope many of you will come in and sign up after May 1st.