

Collection Development/Management Policy

The goal of this collection management policy is to guide staff and inform the public of the Library's underlying philosophies behind collection management decisions.

Core Principles:

As stated above, the Library strives to offer quality over quantity and breadth over depth.

Although we will store and keep certain rare/out-of-print materials--particularly those of a local [Wilkinsburg] nature--we recognize that we are not an archive or rare materials repository. Books that belong in those places should be stored in those places.

We will accept donations both physical and monetary from the public as long as they meet our donation guidelines (see "Appendix 2: Donation Guidelines").

Selection and Retention of Materials:

Our print and media collections are curated so as to appeal to as wide an audience as possible while still emphasizing those materials that appeal to our patrons' particular demographics and interests. We recognize that these latter two qualities will change over time.

We will not keep materials that fall under one or more of the MUSTIE categories (see above).

We will retain certain titles/authors in our print and media collection that we believe should comprise our "core collection." These materials are classified as being of local, cultural, intellectual and/or historical importance.

Weeding

Materials that fall under one or more of the MUSTIE categories (see above) will be weeded. Once materials are weeded they are put on sale for at least 1-year. After the 1-year period is up, weeded books that have not been purchased are given to Better World Books or other charitable institutions for resale/recycle.

All proceeds from the purchase of weeded materials go directly towards funding the Library.

No Endorsement of Content

Selection of an item for a Library collection does not constitute endorsement by the Library of either the content or viewpoint expressed in that item.