

INTRODUCTION

Wells County Public Library may be referred to as “WCPL” or “library” within this handbook and policies.

Mission Statement

“The Wells County Public Library provides the communities it serves with access, knowledge, and growth supporting research, popular interests, and lifelong learning.”

Values & Vision Statements

The Wells County Public Library is committed to providing library service that is

- ◀ all encompassing ▶
- ◀ oriented for lifelong learning ▶
- ◀ economically and equally accessible ▶
- ◀ inviting and offers a “small town” atmosphere ▶
- ◀ committed to innovative technology ▶
- ◀ professional and forward thinking ▶
- ◀ customer focused ▶

The Wells County Public Library will

- /// be considered essential to the community
- /// embrace technology
- /// produce innovative programs for all ages
- /// seek continual improvement in its facility, its people, and its processes
- /// serve patron’s individual informational, enrichment, and entertainment needs
- /// seek cost-effective, convenient knowledge delivery
- /// be the best source of information about Wells County

Policy

All policies of the Wells County Public Library must be approved by the Library Board, and as such, may also be considered Board Policy.

Library Bill of Rights

The “*Library Bill of Rights*” is subscribed to by the Wells County Public Library.

Library Bill of Rights

“The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

1. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
2. 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.

3. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
4. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.
5. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
6. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.
7. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; January 29, 2019.

Inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.

Although the Articles of the *Library Bill of Rights* are unambiguous statements of basic principles that should govern the service of all libraries, questions do arise concerning application of these principles to specific library practices. See the documents designated by the Intellectual Freedom Committee as Library Bill of Rights (<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill/interpretations>).