

Support Your Digital Library!

The WVLS OverDrive Advantage Selection Committee invites libraries and library users to consider making monetary donations to the WVLS OverDrive Advantage fund to purchase ebook and audiobooks to benefit local digital library users.

Publishers have changed digital purchasing options for libraries this year. As of fall 2019, ebooks and audiobooks may be more expensive, titles will be leased instead of owned permanently, and one publisher will only allow multiple copies to be purchased eight weeks after the material's publication date.



Digital Library users may experience longer wait times as budgets will not last as long due to increased prices and repurchasing titles.

See reverse for “Questions & Answers: What's happening with econtent publishers?”

Please make checks* payable to Wisconsin Valley Library Service. Your local library will deliver your donation to the WVLS offices.

*Cash will not be accepted by WVLS.

Donation Recommendations

- Donors could make a donation to sustain the \$1,100 monthly purchasing budget
- Donors could designate a format for purchase (ebook/audiobook)
- Donors could designate an audience (Children, Young Adults, Adults)
- Donors could designate fiction or non-fiction

Donation Recommendation Notes

The OverDrive Advantage Selection Committee does not recommend donors designate donations for specific genres, authors, series, etc.

The new lending models are changing our digital collection to a contemporary collection rather than a more permanent collection with breadth similar to a library's physical collection. Additionally, the Committee cannot pre-purchase titles far in advance so it would be difficult to find enough titles that might circulate to satisfy a donation.

The Committee does not want to purchase a title that might not circulate, and then expire in two years.

Questions & Answers: What's happening with econtent publishers?

What's happening with [econtent] publishers? Over the last couple of months, multiple publishers have changed their library purchasing models for ebooks and digital audiobooks. The result of this change is more expensive, more limited access. The biggest change comes from Macmillan. After November 1st, 2019, the Wisconsin Digital Library and your library system will only be able to purchase a maximum of 17 copies for the state when a Macmillan title is released. The title will then not be available for us to purchase for 8 weeks, after which time we will be able to purchase titles for a limited number of downloads to the public.

Why is this happening? Some are speculating these decisions are being driven by Amazon.

Which publishers are doing what?

- Hachette: Changed from perpetual ownership of copies to two-year metered access only for ebooks and audiobooks.
- Simon & Schuster: Changed from one-year metered to two-year metered and increased prices for ebooks and audiobooks.
- Macmillan: Wisconsin Digital Library and individual systems are able to purchase one copy for perpetual access at publication. 8 weeks after publication, can purchase two-year metered access copies.

What does this mean for WPLC (Wisconsin Digital Library)? It means that titles may cost more and/or may not be available immediately upon publication. Wait times for popular items may be longer as purchasing and access to titles decreases.

What are is the Wisconsin Digital Library Consortium going to do about it? We're working on that. We want a response that will be effective and coordinated with others like OverDrive and other big purchasers and the national library response. The state of Wisconsin Selection Committee discussed the possibility of spending less money with Macmillan, is investigating about how to utilize the virtual patron focus group (over 3500 patrons who have agreed to help develop the digital library). Wisconsin is also talking with OverDrive, BiblioBoard, and other libraries to see what efforts we can support and enhance

What was the American Library Association's response? [ALA released a statement on July 25, 2019](#) and launched a national campaign and hashtag: [#eBooksForAll](#) in response to the Macmillan embargo. ALA released a second [statement on October 15, 2019](#) "ALA denounces Amazon, Macmillan in response to Congressional inquiry on competition in digital markets."

What is the Libraries Transform Book Pick Digital Book Club all about? Though the [#eBooksForAll] hashtag was launched in response to a negative action by a Big 5 publishing company, there's also good news for book lovers: [Libraries Transform Book Pick](#). It's a digital book club offering unlimited checkouts of "[After the Flood](#)" by [Kassandra Montag](#). The title will be available October 7-21, 2019. As an Overdrive customer, WPLC can lend the book to everyone who wants to read it in that 2-week period, with no waitlists or holds.

For more information about the Libraries Transform Book Pick, please visit lovelibraries.org/libraries-transform-book-pick. You can also follow the Libraries Transform Book Pick on ALA's Facebook and Twitter and join the discussion on social media using the hashtag #LTBookPick. The Libraries Transform Book Pick is a collaboration between Booklist, the book review magazine of the American Library Association; Libraries

Transform, the American Library Association's public awareness initiative; and OverDrive, ALA Library Champion and lead sponsor of Libraries Transform.

Sources

American Library Association. [ALA denounces new Macmillan library lending model, urges library customers to voice opinions](#). Press Release, July 25, 2019.

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ILoveLibraries.org. [Libraries Transform Book Pick](#). 2019.

Wisconsin Department of Instruction. [#eBooksForAll calls attention to positive and negative ebook lending models](#). Wisconsin Libraries for Everyone. Blog, September 23, 2019.

Wisconsin Public Library Consortium. [Publisher Changes Questions & Answers](#). WPLC Board & Steering Monthly Update, August 2019.