

9 Church Street
Bloomfield, NY 14469
585-657-6264
www.bloomfieldpubliclibrary.org

CIRCULATION POLICY

Adopted 9/2020; Revised 4/19/2021; Revised 2/13/2024, 11/2024, Revised 07/21/25. 09/15/25

The Bloomfield Public Library (“the Library”) is a member of the OWWL Library System (OWWL), a New York State-chartered cooperative public library system serving the forty-two public libraries in Ontario, Wayne and Wyoming and Livingston (OWWL) counties. The Library applies the same privileges, responsibilities, and fees to all OWWL cardholders, no matter which library originally issued their library card.

The Library maintains a Circulation Policy to ensure that all patrons are provided with consistent and equitable service from the Library and that every patron has clear expectations of their rights as an OWWL cardholder.

1. Registration

An OWWL library card is required to borrow materials. Registering for a library card must be done in-person. Exceptions can be made for people who are disabled and unable to come to the Library or for those registering for online library cards through the OWWL Self-Registration Form.

The Bloomfield Public Library issues library cards without charge. In order for the Library to maintain accurate patron contact information, OWWL library cards are valid for two years and must be renewed at the end of this period. When renewing a library card, a patron will be asked to provide their current contact information.

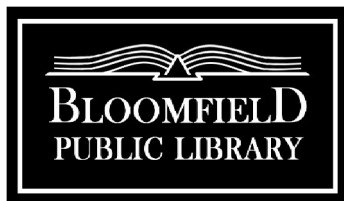
Patrons are only allowed one OWWL card in their name. The Library reserves the right to withdraw borrowing privileges from any patron providing the Library with false registration information. Lost cards should be reported to the Library immediately to avoid unnecessary charges.

For Patrons 18 and over

Library cards are issued to individuals 18 years of age and older upon presentation of a valid ID which contains the individuals name and current address. Preferred form of identification is a NY State Driver's License or a NY State Non-Driver's ID; other forms of ID will be accepted at the discretion of the library staff.

For Patrons under 18

Children are issued a library card when they have reached their 3rd birthday. A parent or legal guardian must sign the registration form for a child under the age of 18 and present valid ID as described above.



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Online Library Card Registration

The OWWL online library card registration system enables all full- and part-time residents of Ontario, Wayne, Wyoming, and Livingston Counties, as well as any person who attends school or pays property taxes in these counties, to obtain a library card via a Self-Registration Form located on <https://owwl.org>.

Library cards obtained through online registration will give card holders access to all OWWL digital resources and allow individuals to place holds on physical library materials. The Bloomfield Public Library requires that online registrants provide further proof of identity in person before they are able to borrow physical library materials.

Service to Special Groups

Loans to special groups are handled on an individual basis. Special groups may include, but are not limited to, schools, day care centers, and senior citizen centers. One person from the organization must be responsible for all items borrowed. Due dates may be extended at the discretion of library staff. Bulk loans are available.

2. Borrowing Privileges & Responsibilities

Patrons must present their library card when checking out library materials. Photo ID may be accepted in the case of a forgotten card on a limited basis.

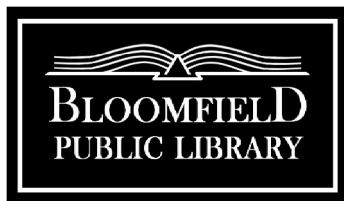
Holders of a valid library card have access to ALL materials in the library.

Loan Periods

Books, magazines, DVD Series and audiobooks can be checked out for three weeks.

DVDs can be checked out for one week. New DVDs may be checked out for five days.

Museum passes, games and WiFi Hot Spots can be checked out for one week.



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Returning Items

Materials may be returned at the circulation desk during open hours, in the book drop, or at any OWWL library. Unless noted, all items owned by a PLS library may be returned to the Bloomfield Public Library.

Renewals

All circulating materials may be renewed by telephone, on-line through patron's OWWL Account, by emailing bloomfieldlibrary@owwl.org, or at the library. Items will be renewed for an additional loan period providing there are no hold requests on the item at the time of renewal and the items' allotted number of renewals has not been exhausted. Print and audiobook materials may be renewed two times. DVDs may be renewed one time. Museum passes may not be renewed. Wi-Fi Hot Spots may not be renewed.

Eligible materials may be automatically renewed, if they have not been returned by the end of their circulation period. Automatic renewals adhere to the same limits as stated above.

Holds

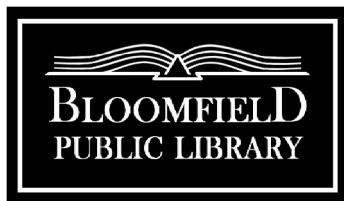
All circulating materials may be placed on hold in person, on-line with an OWWL Account, by emailing bloomfieldlibrary@owwl.org, or by telephone. Patrons will be notified when the requested item is available. Materials will be held for one week. Museum passes and Wi-Fi hot spots may not be put on hold.

Interlibrary Loan

Materials not available through OWWL may be requested through Interlibrary Loan by any registered cardholder in good standing. OWWL coordinates borrowing of requested materials from regional and state libraries as necessary. Loan periods for these materials are determined by the loaning libraries. A \$5.00 non-refundable fee will be charged on all Interlibrary Loan requests placed to libraries outside of the OWWL.

Authorized Users

Patrons are allowed to grant authorized users access to portions of their account information. Permissions include the ability to check out items on the account, place and/or pick up holds on the account, and view borrowing history. The Library also considers access to and payment of a patron's fines as authorized permissions. Authorized users can be added or removed at any time.



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3. Fines and Overdue Materials

Charging overdue fines for print materials and audiobooks does not support the library's mission of providing opportunities to all members of the community, as overdue fines disproportionately affect low-income families, adding a barrier to library use. The Bloomfield Public Library will not charge overdue fines for print materials, audiobooks, DVDs, Blu-Ray, and video games checked out at the Bloomfield Public Library. Library materials checked out at other OWWL libraries are subject to that library's circulation policy and may still accrue overdue fines.

Lost or Damaged Items

Patrons are held responsible for all items checked out on their library cards. Patrons will be required to pay for lost items and for items that are damaged beyond further use and must be withdrawn from the collection. The patron will be charged the bibliographic record price of the item. Patrons may present a replacement of the exact item in new condition in lieu of paying the bibliographic record price.

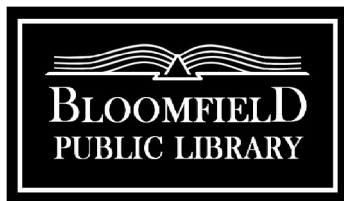
The Library does not issue refunds for lost or damaged items that have been paid for by patrons. Once paid for, these items are considered the property of the patron.

Billing Procedures and Account Standing

Emailed and written notices are sent when an item is several weeks overdue. The patron's account is billed once the item is eight weeks overdue. The bill includes the replacement cost of the item.

Patrons whose accounts have outstanding fines in excess of \$5.00, from any OWWL library, and/or more than 5 items overdue are considered to be not in good standing with the Library and OWWL system. These accounts will lose borrowing privileges until the total fines are reduced to less than \$5.00 and fewer than 5 items are overdue.

Patrons who owe the library more than \$100.00 may be liable for court action. Court costs will be added to the amount owed to the library.



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Fine and Fee Schedule (Effective January 2024)

Lost material, including museum passes: Replacement price

Museum passes: \$1.00 per day (maximum of \$5.00)

Lost library card: A \$1.00 fee may be charged.

Copy, Print, and Fax Charges:

The library maintains a self-service, multifunction copier for use by its patrons.

Print or Copy	Black & White: \$0.10 per page side Color: \$0.25 per page side
Fax	Outgoing: \$1.00 per page, excluding cover page Incoming: \$0.50 per page *Maximum of \$5.00
Scan to Patron's Email	No Charge

Fine Forgiveness

In recognition of unforeseen and uncontrollable circumstances, the Library may, at the sole discretion of the Library Director, forgive overdue fines and/or waive replacement costs associated with lost or damaged materials. Such forgiveness may be considered in cases where items are lost or rendered unusable as a direct result of fire, theft, natural disaster, or other unintended accidental causes.

Patrons requesting consideration under this policy will be asked to provide reasonable documentation of the circumstances (e.g., a police report, insurance claim, or other supporting evidence). The decision of the Library Director regarding the forgiveness of fines or fees shall be final and not subject to appeal. The patron will be provided documentation of the decision within 2 weeks of the request.