

Library of Things Policies

Purpose

The Bay County Library System's Library of Things is a collection of non-traditional items which supports the Library's mission of being a cultural hub that transforms our community by providing vital opportunities connecting people, ideas, and information. Our goals in creating this collection are to provide dynamic resources and innovative services to stimulate intellectual curiosity, facilitate lifelong learning, promote literacy, and nurture personal enrichment.

Borrowing and Use

- Due to high demand of this special collection, it is available exclusively to Bay County resident cardholders.
- Supplies for Things are not included.
- Things can be requested for check out at all BCLS branches.
- Things must be returned inside the building.
- Things may not be returned in the drop box.
- If circumstances warrant, the Library reserves the right to refuse a borrower the use of items from the Library of Things or to discontinue borrowing privileges for items in the Library of Things collection.
- Only one Thing may be checked out per library card.
- Things are checked out for 3 weeks. Items may not be renewed.

Responsibility and Liability

- By checking out a Thing, the borrower agrees to the BCLS 'Library of Things' Lending Policy and the Lending rules for the Thing.
- The borrower is solely responsible for the Thing and will be billed for the repair or replacement cost associated with any damage or loss of a Thing and/or accessories excluding normal wear and tear.
- The borrower shall hold harmless and release the Library, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers from and for any and all liability, claims, demands, actions or rights of action, including but not limited to claims of injury, wrongful death, property damage, stolen or lost property, which are related in any way to or are in any way connected with borrowing or use of the Thing whether caused by any defect in the Thing, negligent acts or omissions of the Library, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers, or otherwise arising out of or in any way related to or connected with borrowing or use of the Thing.
- The borrower or the parent or guardian of a borrower less than 18 years old shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Library, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers from claims of injury, wrongful death, property damage, stolen or lost property, which are related in any way to or are in any way connected with borrowing or use of the Thing, of third parties or the borrower if less than 18 years old in connection with the borrower's borrowing or use of the Thing. This indemnification obligation shall exclude only those claims brought as a result of the Library, its officers, agents, employees, or volunteers' sole negligence, is not to be construed as a waiver of the defense of governmental immunity that may be asserted by the Library, its officers, agents, employees or volunteers, and shall continue for the applicable period of limitations for any claims, liabilities or actions.

- If any borrowed Thing becomes unsafe or in a state of disrepair, the patron must immediately discontinue use of the item and notify the library of the issue upon returning the Thing.
- A list of replacement costs of Things is maintained by the Library and is included with the item at the time of check out.
- The Library is not responsible for the loss of data while using a Thing.
- The Library is not responsible for any consequences for the borrower's actions while using the Thing.

Care and Operation

- The Thing may only be used, operated, and cleaned in compliance with BCLS's policies, intended use, and manufacturer's guidelines.
- Borrower shall not make any modifications or alterations to the Thing.
- Use care and safety when handling and using the Thing.
- Return the Thing with all parts, components and accessories.
- Do not attempt to repair a Thing.