



West Dennis
Free Public
Library

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The West Dennis Free Public Library observes the following Collection Development Policy in order to best serve the residents of West Dennis and the greater CLAMS network. The Library aims to provide relevant, quality resources necessary to meet the evolving informational, educational, recreational, and personal needs of the community within the limitations of budget, space, and availability. In selecting materials, the West Dennis Library adheres to the American Library Association Bill of Rights and uses the following tenets:

1. Materials including books, periodicals, audio, video, and other resources are selected by library staff to provide a variety of resources for all people regardless of origin, age, background, views, or lifestyle practices.
2. Due to the limitations of budget and space, preference is given to items with high request rates within the CLAMS network, as well as other current materials and works of popular appeal to the independent user.
3. Specific purchase requests from library patrons may be considered if they are readily obtainable and would appeal to the wider community.
4. In selecting nonfiction titles, breadth is prioritized over depth (i.e. materials are sought on a wide range of topics that are accessible to the general reader, rather than exhaustive collections in any one topic or books of a specialized or scholarly nature).
5. Local authors whose works are not in high enough demand for us to purchase may donate copies of their books to the library. Such books will be subject to the same criteria for withdrawal as purchased titles.

WITHDRAWING MATERIALS

To maintain the relevance and vitality of our collection, the West Dennis Library systematically withdraws materials using the following criteria:

1. Materials that have not circulated in three years are eligible for removal if space is required to make room for new items.
2. Materials that are damaged beyond repair may be removed or replaced as needed.
3. Materials containing outdated or inaccurate information may be removed.
4. Materials that are patently false, libelous, and/or filled with illegal hate or violence toward particular groups may be removed.
5. Duplicate copies of an item may be removed.