

## **IMPORTANT POLICY CHANGE AT ALL LAKELAND LIBRARY COOPERATIVE MEMBER LIBRARIES**

**Effective March 15, 2010**

***Check out an item at a library. Return it to the same library.***

Library patrons throughout the 8-county Lakeland Library Cooperative service area are being asked to return materials to the library where they checked them out. The change in the handling of materials comes as the result of a 40% reduction in State funding to public libraries and library cooperatives in the FY 2009-2010 State budget. The result has been a collective reduction in funding approaching \$500,000 to the Lakeland Library Cooperative and its member libraries. Your cooperation is needed so further reductions to services will not need to be implemented.

Items checked out from a library and returned to another Lakeland member library will be returned to its owning library. **HOWEVER, YOU MAY INCURE LATE FEES. THE ITEMS WILL NOT BE CHECKED IN UNTIL THEY ARE RECEIVED BY THE LIBRARY WHERE YOU CHECKED THEM OUT.** Specially marked interlibrary loan (ILL) items are the exception to this policy.

Libraries with branches are considered a single library and materials checked out at any of their branches may be returned to another branch of the same library. These include: Kent District Library, Muskegon Area District Library, Herrick District Library, Saranac/Clarksville libraries, Carson City/Crystal libraries.

The change in policy **WILL NOT** impact your ability to place holds online and to choose a pickup location. Interlibrary loan items marked ILL can be returned to any location, except Grand Rapids Public Library and its branches. Items borrowed from Grand Rapids Public Library may only be picked up at and returned to its branches.

The Lakeland Library Cooperative and its members are making the change in the delivery service to reduce delivery volume and costs, to preserve access to immensely popular services (such as interlibrary loan) and to avoid charging additional fees to patrons for library use. The previously offered delivery return service was a convenience for patrons that the local libraries and Cooperative simply can no longer afford to support, particularly in light of additional budget cuts anticipated with the State's FY 2010-2011 budget.

The Lakeland Library Cooperative includes 41 public libraries serving Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo and Ottawa counties. Please contact your local library if you have questions regarding this change.

CHANGES TO HOLDS ON LAKENET  
JUNE 28, 2010

Due to statewide budget cuts continuing to affect libraries:

- Effective June 28, 2010
  - Non-Print materials will not be delivered from other Lakeland member libraries
  - New books will not be delivered from other Lakeland member libraries
- Holds placed after June 28, 2010 will be available for pickup only at your home library

NOTE: Existing holds for non-print materials and new books not owned by your home library will not be filled unless or until your home library purchases a copy

What Can I Do?

- Call your legislator
- Donate dollars (\$) to add materials to your home library's collection