

ATHENS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

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www.athenscommunitylibrary.org



Greetings patrons:

Athens Community Library, with your support, continues to update and become more user-friendly. As we continue to improve our services and comply with the State Library of Michigan requirements as well as the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services requirements, we are continually reviewing our Library Policies and wish to share this information with our patrons. We are currently striving to meet all requirements as set forth by the Library of Michigan so we will continue to receive state aid.

In August 2022, the citizens of Athens passed a .7 millage to support the library. Therefore, taxpayers within the Township of Athens are considered residents and are not required to purchase a library card. Additionally, the residents of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi are considered residents and are not required to purchase a library card due to PILT funding.

However, as of January 1, 2023, non-residents (those who do not live within or pay taxes to Athens Township) are charged a yearly fee of \$10 for individual library cards or \$30 for a family library card for use of all family members living at the same residential address. Non-residential library cards will expire one (1) year from the application date. This is to ensure that unfair taxation is not placed upon Athens Township residents who pay yearly millage taxes to support the library. We have determined the cost of non-residential library cards to be comparable to the average millage rate charged to Athens Township residents.

Current Overdrive accounts will expire January 31, 2023; however, they are reinstated with your renewal application and payment.

If you do not reside in Athens Township, but pay taxes on a parcel in Athens Township, please supply either an Athens Township property tax invoice or receipt, and we will correct your patron status to residential. I apologize in advance if any errors made. If you have questions or require further information/explanation, please contact us at the library at 269-729-4479.

We have included a library card application with this letter. You may return it or mail it to the library with cash or check made out to Athens Community Library. At this time, we do not accept credit cards.

Best regards,

Melissa Irons

Library Director on behalf of the

Athens Community Library Board of Directors

Questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Athens Township Board, which meets the first Tuesday of every month.

Libraries around us that charge nonresident fees:
Lawrence Memorial Library (Climax) \$45/year/person
Willard Library/Helen Warner Branch \$150/household/year
Branch Library Consortium \$50/year/person (Sherwood,