

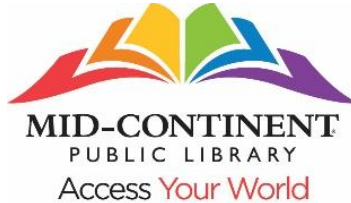
Thursday, May 1, 2025

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MCPL Stocks Local Pantries, Forgives Fines May 5–11

Library Customers Pay off Fines with Donations to Local Food Banks During ‘Food for Fines’

Greater Kansas City, MO – Mid-Continent Public Library’s biannual Food for Fines program will return May 5–11, once again providing customers with the opportunity to pay off fines and fees with donations of nonperishable food items. Branches collect the donations, and at the end of the week, they are given to local food pantries across the metro. For more than a decade, MCPL has offered the program, which **has collected more than 220,000 items for local charities.**

“Food for Fines is something we look forward to offering every spring and fall,” said MCPL Excelsior Springs Branch Manager Stephen Chalmers. “Not only does it fulfill a great need in the community, but it also gives folks a chance to get rid of any pesky lingering fines. And whether you have fines or not, everyone is welcome to donate and support their local food banks.”

MCPL offers the Food for Fines program twice a year—leading into the summer to encourage active participation in the annual summer reading program, and in the fall to alleviate any barriers for students seeking resources at the Library.

Suggested donations include boxed meals, canned food, peanut butter, cereal, and pasta. Donations must not be expired, damaged, open, or in a glass, plastic, or cardboard drink container. Each donated food item will count as \$1.50 toward a customer’s fines and fees (up to \$30).

Current Food for Fines recipients include:

MCPL Branch	Organization
Antioch Branch	Feed Northland Kids
Blue Ridge Branch	Community Assistance Council
Blue Springs North Branch	Community Services League
Blue Springs South Branch	Community Services League
Buckner Branch	Community Services League
Camden Point Branch	Dearborn Community Food Network

Claycomo Branch	Claycomo Citizen's Alliance
Colbern Road Library Center	Coldwater of Lee's Summit
Dearborn Branch	Dearborn Community Food Network
East Lee's Summit Branch	Lee's Summit Social Services
East Independence Branch	Community Services League
Edgerton Branch	Dearborn Community Food Network
Excelsior Springs Branch	Good Samaritan Center of Excelsior Springs
Farview Neighborhood Library	Community Services League (Farview in-branch food pantry)
Grain Valley Branch	Community Services League
Grandview Branch	Grandview Assistance Program
Green Hills Library Center	A Turning Point KC
Kearney Branch	Kearney Food Pantry
Lee's Summit Branch	Lee's Summit Social Services
Lone Jack Branch	Helping Hands Food Pantry
Midwest Genealogy Center	Community Services League
North Independence Branch	Community Services League
Oak Grove Branch	Community Services League
Parkville Branch	St. Therese Food Pantry
Platte City Branch	Treasure Chest
Raytown Branch	River of Refuge
Red Bridge Branch	Community Assistance Council
Riverside Branch	Mimi's Pantry
Smithville Branch	First Christian Church Food Pantry
South Independence Branch	Community Services League
Weston Branch	Weston Community Food Pantry
Withers Branch	Grace Episcopal Food Pantry
Woodneath Library Center	Kansas City Church

For more information about Food for Fines, visit mymcpl.org/FoodForFines.

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Founded in 1965, [Mid-Continent Public Library](#) is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 34 branches and two Library-To-Go locations and serving nearly 850,000 people in Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties. MCPL is an award-winning library system that strives to enrich citizens and communities through expanding access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration. Connect with the Library on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).