

Garrett Public Library

Patron Privacy Policy

The Garrett Public Library is committed to protecting the privacy of our patrons. The Library recognizes that only in confidentiality can true freedom of information and expression take place. We will adhere as closely as possible to the standards set by the American Library Association while also acknowledging that some special circumstances require breaching confidentiality:

1. The Library will hold confident all personal identifying information (PII) and information sought or received, materials consulted, borrowed, acquired. This includes database search records, circulation records, interlibrary loan records, and other personally identifiable uses of library materials, facilities or services. We will not make library records available except in response to a subpoena, warrant, court order, or decision of the Library Director and attorney on a public records request.
2. In general, juveniles have similar expectations to privacy as do adults. Parental responsibility is fundamentally important to a minor's use of the library. Parents are solely responsible not only for the choices their minor children make concerning the selection of materials and the use of library facilities and resources, but also for communicating with their minor children about those choices. The Library will not breach a minor's confidentiality by giving out information readily available to the parent from the minor directly, except in the case of overdue material.
3. The Garrett Public Library recognizes that law enforcement agencies and officers may occasionally believe that library records contain information which may be helpful to the investigation of criminal activity. If there is a reasonable basis to believe such records are necessary to the progress of an investigation or prosecution, the American judicial system provides mechanism for seeking release of such confidential records: the issuance of a court order, following a showing of good cause based on specific facts, by a court of competent jurisdiction.

If you have a question, concern, or complaint about our handling of your private information, please talk to the Library Director. The Director is custodian of library records and is responsible for responding to public records requests and inquiries from law enforcement officers.