

## **BOOK SALE DONATIONS and BOOK RECYCLING**

Due to generous donations of thousands of quality, gently used and treasured books, the Friends of Brooks Memorial Library has expanded to sponsoring three book sales during each year. This fundraising effort generates nearly \$10,000 annually for support of library equipment, furniture, programs and events. On rare occasions, if a donation meets the selection criteria, donated items are sometimes added to the library collection. Some higher value books have been posted online to reach a broader market and fetch a better price. Our remainders have been given to prisons and Native American Reservation libraries and passed along to a hospital or other library books sales. All good books are put to good use. Thank you to everyone who has donated books to support these causes.

**Prior to a Book Sale, we happily accept donations at the main circulations desk whenever the library is open.** Please call 802-254-5290 x106 if you have any questions or if you have a large quantity of boxes to donate. In order to insure the quality, please have a staff member peruse the donation before dropping it off.

**The following are guidelines for acceptable book donations.** Please donate only books that are gently used and in good condition. We will accept:

- Hardcover, soft cover and mass market paperbacks in both fiction and non-fiction
- Audiobooks on CD
- Music CDs
- DVDs
- Coffee-table books
- Children's books
- Rare, first edition and signed books
- Books valued over \$20 to post on the Friend's Amazon seller account

We will not accept:

- **Magazines**
- **Encyclopedias**
- **Reader's Digest Condensed Books**
- **Out dated reference books**
- **Textbooks**
- **Travel guides**
- **Any outdated non-fiction**
- **Computer books**
- **Romance paperbacks**
- **LP records**
- **Cassette music tapes**
- **Books targeted to a small, select audience unless they have a value over \$20 on Amazon**

The big question is always, “**What do I do with books that are not acceptable for donations at Brooks Memorial Library?**”

There is an organization called **Got Books**. Every book donation that they receive is sorted at their warehouse to find its best possible purpose. You can find out more about this organization by visiting [www.gotbooks.com](http://www.gotbooks.com). There is a donation bin located in Brattleboro at the **Brattleboro Recycling Center**, 327 Old Ferry Road. They are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday from 8am-3:30pm, Wednesday from 8am-6pm, and Saturday 8am-12pm. Got Books is a 6 foot gray container where any Windham County resident can deposit books.

Recycling is the last resort for **Got Books**. It is also the last resort for library donations that can not be put to better use. Recycling is one of the most difficult things for book lovers to do, short of putting a book in the landfill. So, I will let you know how to avoid the landfill by putting useless books into the recycling stream. Softcover books and paperbacks can be recycled like magazines; just put them directly into the recycling bin. Hardcover books require another step. It is best to remove the hardcover and then recycle the paper. The recycling process has a method for dissolving or removing the glue in the binding. If you find it impossible to wrench the hardcover away from the binding, it is preferable to put the entire book into the recycling bin. It is really that simple. You will feel good about recycling the paper and keeping the book out of the landfill.

The hard part is making the decision that a book needs to be disposed. Please use the above guidelines and do not donate books that will need to be recycled.

Submitted by:  
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