



A Library in Your Home

Who knew a mouse could be so handy?

When they've got the time, many folks enjoy going to the library just because they like being there. They like to look at the rows of newspapers and magazines. They enjoy examining the new CDs and DVDs. They might even have an emotional response to the heft and texture of a book. The pleasure they derive from browsing in a library is similar to the one they get from shopping in a bookstore, with the added touch of wonderfulness that comes from knowing that they can take something home for a couple of weeks and not have to pay for it.



But sometimes the convenience of online access to your library is what you crave, and your Metropolitan Library System offers that, too.

Our web address is www.metrolibrary.org, and once you get there, the sky's the limit. At the top of our home page you can click on "News" to read press releases about upcoming library events, holiday closings, and significant changes in library personnel.

If you want just the what, when, where of our schedule, take a look at the "Calendar of Events."

There's a world of things you can do when you click on "Catalog & Databases." Go to the library catalog and you can see if we own that particular book you've been wanting to read. If we do, and you have a valid library card, you can put the item on reserve. Tell us at which library you want to check it out and we'll send it there for you. You can also see what other items you have on reserve and how long you have to wait before it'll be your turn for them.

If you have some things checked out already and you need to re-check them, you can do that online as well. To give you an assist with your record keeping, you can also pull up to print a list of everything you have checked out. Got

some fines you want to take care of? Pay them online with a credit card.

And our newest online service is access to RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feeds. With RSS, you can learn instantly about new jobs at the library, events, and the newest arrivals of "on the shelf" items in a variety of genres and formats, including fiction for adults, Spanish language, large print,

DVDs, audio books, books for children and teens, nonfiction for adults, and music.

That's right—you can

use RSS feeds to find out, say, what mysteries we've added during the last 30 days. You take a look at those recently added mysteries. Here's one that looks interesting: *The Groom To Have Been*. You click on the title and you're taken instantly to our catalog entry for that book. There you can put the item on reserve, just as you could if you got to the CyberMARS the usual way

You will need a news reader, but there's nothing to download. It's just like you were signing up for free e-mail.

Take a few minutes to explore our website and you'll be surprised at all the services it offers. Who knew a mouse could be so handy?

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