

## Do we really need libraries in the age of eBooks and technology?

Nearly 2 million items are checked out each year from the Lafayette Public Library System. 97% of those items are physical books, DVDs, CDs and magazines checked out from one of the library buildings and about 3% is from eBook downloads. Book checkout is fairly evenly split between children's and adult.

500 people come in each day to use one of our computers to search for jobs, complete applications, check email, hone resume skills, do genealogy research, or seek other information. Countless others use our Wi-Fi service or take advantage of our computer training classes. Thousands each year attend library-sponsored programs, public meetings, or use our study rooms.

Nearly 3,000 people visit a Lafayette Public Library location each day!

## Library Locations

[www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org](http://www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org)

24-hour renewal line—261-5771

**Jefferson Street Branch**  
538 Jefferson St.  
Downtown Lafayette  
261-5787  
(while Main Library is closed for renovations)

**Broussard Branch**  
100 W. Main St.  
837-3936

**Butler Branch**  
309 Cora St.  
(in the ML King Recreation Center)  
234-0363

**Chenier Branch**  
220 W. Willow,  
Bldg C.  
(in the Clifton Chenier Center)  
291-2941

**Duson Branch**  
310 Ave. Au Nord  
(in the Duson Community Center)  
873-3521

**Milton Branch**  
108 W. Milton Ave.  
856-5261

**North Regional in Carencro**  
5101 N. University  
896-6323

**Scott Branch**  
5808 W. Cameron St.  
837-3936

**South Regional in Lafayette**  
6101 Johnston St.  
981-1028

**Youngville Branch**  
506 Lafayette St.  
856-9385

## Library Millage Renewal

November 6, 2012

## FAQS



[www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org](http://www.lafayettepubliclibrary.org)

## Library Millage Renewal

There is a library millage renewal on Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. You will find it near the end of the ballot with the other local propositions, after the Presidential and Congressional candidates and the State Constitutional Amendments. Here is the wording:

Parishwide Propositions (Library Tax) (Millage Renewal) Summary: Authority for the Parish of Lafayette, State of Louisiana, to continue to levy a 10-year 2-mill property tax for constructing, improving, maintaining and operating public libraries in the Parish, including the acquisition of equipment, books, materials and supplies.

PW City-Parish Council (Library) 2 Mill -  
PC - 10 Yrs.

Shall the Parish of Lafayette, State of Louisiana (the "Parish"), continue to levy and collect a two (2) mills tax on all property subject to taxation within the Parish for a period of ten (10) years, beginning with the year 2013 and ending with the year 2022 (an estimated \$3,280,000 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the tax for an entire year), for the purpose of constructing, improving, maintaining and operating public libraries in the Parish, including the acquisition of equipment, books, materials and supplies?

### Is it a new tax?

No, it is a **renewal** of an existing millage. The original Ad Valorem millage was approved by the voters in 2002 to support and operate public libraries, including the new regional libraries and the main library renovations. This 2 mill renewal is at the **same rate** as originally approved by the voters in 2002.

### Can it be used for other things?

No, the money is dedicated to the Library and must be used to construct, improve, maintain, and operate public libraries in Lafayette Parish. This includes the North Regional Library in Carencro, branch libraries in Broussard, Youngsville, Milton, Scott, and Duson, and the libraries in Lafayette, including the South Regional Library, the Main Library, and the Chenier Center branch.

### Who votes on this millage?

All registered voters in Lafayette Parish – including Lafayette, Scott, Duson, Carencro, Youngsville, Broussard, Milton and other unincorporated parts of the Parish – can vote.

### What does the library do with the money?

With these collective taxpayer dollars, we provide access to books, information, Internet and computer access and training, meeting and study spaces, and programs for all ages. The money pays for our annual operations (including utilities, equipment, staffing, new books and other materials and maintenance) at our two new regional libraries in Carencro and South Lafayette.

It is also currently being used towards construction costs for Main Library renovations and for constructing the remaining regional libraries in southeastern Lafayette Parish (including the Broussard and Youngsville areas) and in western Lafayette Parish (including the Scott and Duson areas). It will be used for annual operations when those regional libraries are open.

### How much will this cost a homeowner if it is renewed?

The annual cost to a homeowner with a \$100,000 home, after homestead exemption, is \$5 a year.

### When is this on the ballot?

It is on Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Absentee voting is from Oct. 23– 30.