



NEWS RELEASE

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Food for Fines benefits double for library card holders this year

Annual food drive is win-win for customers and food banks alike

Spokane, WA / March 24, 2016 – Spokane County Library District and Spokane Public Library are celebrating National Library Week, April 10 – 16, 2016 with Food for Fines, a community food drive for the Second Harvest Food Bank. Fine forgiveness amounts have doubled this year!

Food for Fines works like this: for each donation of a non-perishable food item, library customers can reduce their overdue fines by \$2 – maximum \$20 forgiven per library account. The food bank receives the donated food, the customer has forgiven fines – it's a win-win for all!

Donations benefit the Second Harvest Food Banks and their expanded networks in Cheney, Deer Park, Fairfield, and Medical Lake.

This is the second year of collaboration for the Spokane County Library District and the Spokane Public Library for the annual Food for Fines event. Last year, the two library systems combined collected over 6000 pounds of food and absolved over \$5100 in overdue fines.

The Second Harvest Food Bank serves 55,000 people every week and distributes over 2 million pounds of food each month. Food items needed most include whole-grain cereal that's high in protein, canned meat and fish, peanut butter, hearty canned soups and stews, and beans.

Spokane County Library District provides resources and opportunities for a community to learn, work, create, and thrive together. The District operates 10 libraries throughout Spokane County, including Airway Heights, Argonne, Cheney, Deer Park, Fairfield, Medical Lake, Moran Prairie, North Spokane, Otis Orchards and Spokane Valley. Through a reciprocal agreement with Spokane Public Library and Liberty Lake Municipal Library, library services are provided at no charge to residents of each these service areas.

Spokane Public Library, a division of the City of Spokane, has been providing library services since 1889. In addition to materials, the library offers meeting rooms, computer access, reading space, children's and adult programs, online information services, and research and reference assistance. The main library features an extensive Northwest History collection, the region's best genealogical collection and a thorough collection of popular and informational titles. There are five neighborhood libraries to complement the main library plus outreach services to seniors and preschools.

For additional information about libraries, services or programs, please visit www.sclcd.org and www.spokanelibrary.org.

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