



**Thayer Public Library**  
798 Washington Street  
Braintree, MA 02184

The Library is located directly across from Braintree Town Hall.

**Regular Library Hours**

Monday - Thursday  
9:00 am - 9:00 pm  
Friday & Saturday  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Closed on Sunday

**Summer Hours**

July through Labor Day  
Monday - Thursday  
9:00 am - 8:00 pm  
Friday  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Closed Saturday & Sunday

**Phone:** 781-848-0405

**Web:**

www.ThayerPublicLibrary.net  
www.ThayerPublicLibrary.org

**Email:**

referencedesk@braintreema.gov



ThayerPublicLib

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# Library Connections

The Newsletter of Thayer Public Library

SPRING - SUMMER 2011

## From the Director

Reduce, reuse, recycle. What springs to mind when you think about recycling? Soda and water bottles - tin cans - newspapers? All these are great examples of items that can be recycled to help keep our environment clean. But have you thought of books? How about DVDs and CDs? It may not have occurred to you that the greatest recycling institution of all is your local public library!

Last year alone, our circulation of library materials of all kinds soared to over 400,000 items. What does that mean? Thayer Public Library owns approximately 125,000 items that can be borrowed or used at the library. That means that each item was used on average more than 3 times. And that's just for one year! Of course, our bestselling novels,

current movies on DVD, and music on CD circulate many more times than the average, and our reference materials are used over and over again.

Add it all up, and over time a book can be used by 20 or 30 people or more before we have to replace it. Even after we discard it from our collection, the Friends may offer it for sale for 50 cents or a dollar. Or, the item may go into our Reading Tree donation container for shipment to folks across the world who are learning English. Or, the covers are torn off and the remainder is recycled as paper. Very few library items are ever thrown away. Doesn't that make you feel good about your tax dollars at work?

Every time you use your local public library, you're helping save the environment. Cutting



trees to make paper; gasoline to transport the logs and finished products; use of inks, dyes, glues, and plastics; boxing and packaging materials; heat/air conditioning/light for storage and display are all reduced. So, the next time you think about purchasing a book or DVD that you'll read or watch only once, please reconsider and visit the library instead. Why buy when it's free to borrow? Simplify your life. Reduce, reuse, recycle.

Who knew that Thayer Public Library is such an important partner in the goal of keeping Braintree an environmentally friendly and responsible town?

## The Smartest Card in your Wallet

Your library is a terrific resource in efficiency. For a truly modest investment, the whole community shares a vast collection of books, magazines, music and videos, plus the daily papers, the use of computers, and internet connectivity. You can't beat that! That's why your library card may be the best recycling tool you own.

Getting a library card is easy and takes just a few minutes. Just bring a picture ID and proof of your current address and fill out a simple form. Children with no form of ID must be able to write both their first and last names and bring a parent or guardian with picture ID and proof of address. Within a very few minutes you will be able to borrow books, movies, magazines, and music. You'll feel great about your smart decision to take advantage of this valuable community resource.



# The Green Teen



Read my Blog at:  
www.thayerpubliclibrary.net  
and click on Reba Recommends

♥ Hi Teens,  
Have you ever felt that you wanted to do something to help the environment or to make a difference in the world, but didn't know where to start? Well, we can help you with that! Our YA collection has great resources to get you started.

Try **Going Blue: A Teen Guide to Saving Our Oceans & Waterways** by C. Berger Kaye. It's an adventure guide and how-

to handbook rolled into one, with ideas and suggestions on what you can do to make change happen.

**Girls Gone Green** by Lynn Hirshfield is chock full of ideas and suggestions on how to live green. Featuring real-life stories of girls all over the world (including some celebrities) who have made, or are making a difference.

**Green Careers** by J. Power Scott focuses on "eco-warriors", men and

women all over the globe who make their living by saving the environment!

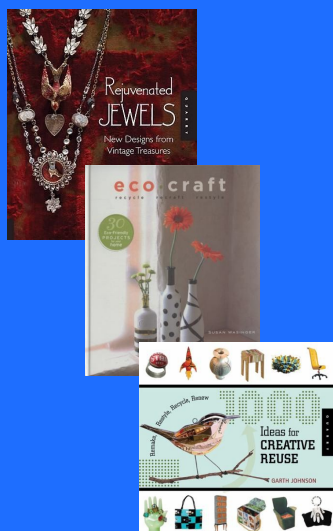
We even have some great fiction titles that pack an environmental punch. Try **Earthgirl** by Jennifer Cowan or **The Carbon Diaries 2015** by S. Lloyd.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. There is so much more, including movies, documentaries, and games. Stop in to see it all!!

Your YA Librarian,  
♥ Reba

*"The human race is challenged more than ever before to demonstrate our mastery - not over nature but of ourselves."*

Rachel Carson,  
author of  
**Silent Spring**

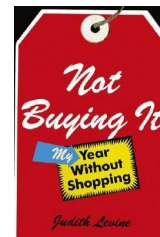


# New England Thrift

"Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without." If you grew up in New England, there's a good chance that you've heard this expression or at least some version of it. Even though we New Englanders are notoriously frugal, the library is still a great resource to learn more about the reduction of unnecessary consumption and new ways to be thrifty.

## Not Buying It: My Year Without Shopping

Judith Levine is the ultimate guide to non-consumerism. Use the library catalog to find books on how to cook from scratch, start a garden, live greener, and shop wisely. You and your family will save money, learn something new, and have some fun together.



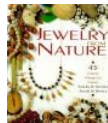
# Upcycle!

What is it? According to Wikipedia, upcycling is "the process of converting waste materials or useless products into new materials or products of better quality or a higher environmental value." If the idea of turning trash into treasure appeals to you, take a look at these books for ideas & projects.

**Junk Beautiful**  
by Sue Whitney



**Jewelry from Nature: 45 Great Projects Using Sticks & Stones, Seeds & Bones**  
by Cathy Yow



**Rejuvenated Jewels: New Designs from Vintage Treasures**  
by Amy Hanna

**1000 Ideas for Creative Reuse: Remake, Restyle, Recycle, Renew**  
by Garth Johnson



**Cool Green Stuff: A Guide to Finding Great Recycled, Sustainable, Renewable Objects You Will Love**  
by Dave Evans



**Eco-craft: Recycle, Recraft, Restyle**  
by Susan Wasinger

To find more, search the library catalog using these subject terms:

- \* Nature Craft
- \* Salvage
- \* Found Objects (art)



## Your Library Never Closes

To save on gasoline and lessen its impact on the environment it's important to keep your car running in top condition. With almost 200 automotive repair and maintenance manuals for most import and domestic models, Thayer Public Library can help you do that.

What if your car breaks down in the middle of the night? Or your car won't run at all and you can't get to the library? Save time, money and gas with ChiltonLibrary.com. Just click

on the icon on the library homepage to get started.



ChiltonLibrary.com provides photographs, diagnostics, step-by-step repair procedures, maintenance schedules, wiring diagrams, recalls and Technical Service Bulletins for automobiles and light trucks in one easy-to-use web site. With model years dating from 1940 to the present, you're sure to

find information to keep your car running at peak performance. And don't worry if you find those diagrams confusing, there are even videos to help you learn more about your vehicle and walk you through common repairs.

This is just one of the many library services you can use anytime from home. Acquaint yourself with the Thayer Public Library website. You'll be surprised how many services are available 24/7.

We're up when you are:

24/7

[www.thayerpubliclibrary.net](http://www.thayerpubliclibrary.net)

- Renew books
- Check due dates
- Place & cancel holds
- Book a museum pass
- Download e-books & audiobooks
- Register for events
- Search the catalog
- Research our 50+ databases

## Extraordinary Re-use

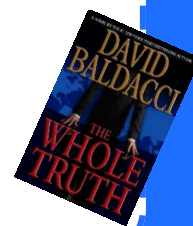
Whenever someone returns a DVD or CD and sadly reports that it doesn't play or that it's falling apart, we check to see how many times the item has circulated. Our library materials go out a lot, **a whole lot**. So, when you come to the library to borrow a movie you might not realize that you are the 250<sup>th</sup> person to borrow it.

This is no exaggeration. Thayer

Public Library's copy of **Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones** has been borrowed 249 times since it was purchased in 2002. This is an amazing statistic but it's not unique. David Baldacci's audiobook **The Whole Truth** has gone out 45 times in a little over a year. **Suzanne's Diary for Nicholas**, a movie based on the popular James Patterson

novel of the same title, has been out 115 times in two years.

So if you happen to borrow something that skips or doesn't play correctly, please let us know when you return it. Our Technical Service department can clean and restore CDs and DVDs and get most of them right back into circulation.



## NORMA's Crafty Stuff

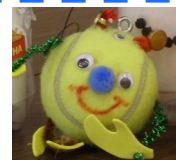
The library's craft programs are a shining example of a great way to repurpose items that would otherwise be disposed of. With the help of friends and staff who save the basic ingredients, Children's Library Assistant Norma Zeoli has brainstormed the most charming ways to repurpose items while providing children

the opportunity to create something fun as they expand their creativity.

Under Norma's tutelage, a box of hot soup to-go covers become lovely Chinese drums; old tennis balls become fanciful characters and the tennis ball tubes live on as savings banks. Paper towel tubes take on new lives as colorful snakes or

curious giraffes with telescoping necks. Pudding cups, tile samples, greeting cards, and old CDs all have been reborn in the craft program.

Please check the schedule to find all of our programs. There is always something exciting happening at the library!



# Friends News:

## Reuse & Recycle @ the Book Sale!

The Friends Book Sale on the lower level of the library is open during library hours. Most of our materials come from generous donations by our patrons. Please donate your gently used books to benefit the library.

### Reuse - Why visit the book sale area in the library?

- It is a compact, eclectic selection of books, DVDs & CDs
- Affordable books and videos for children, friends, and family
- When traveling, books don't have to be renewed or returned
- Read at the beach or in the bathtub with no worries
- Almost everything can be purchased for \$1 or less
- The proceeds are used to support your library

### Recycle - Why donate to the Friends book sale?

- Convenience - drop donations off anytime the library is open
- Get control of your bulging book shelves and piles of books
- Share your treasures with your neighbors
- The proceeds are used to support your library

### Upcoming Events:

#### Sunday Concerts

May 15 at 3:00 pm  
Perry Rossi, jazz



#### Hazardous Waste Day Electronics Collection

April 30, 9am to noon  
at Town Hall



Contact the Friends at:

[FriendsOfThayerPL@braintree.ma.gov](mailto:FriendsOfThayerPL@braintree.ma.gov)  
781-848-0405 x 4002

**"We are not to throw away  
those things which can benefit  
our neighbor."**

**Clement of Alexandria**  
circa 150 - 215 A.D.

## Friends of Thayer Public Library

To renew membership or to become a member of the Friends of Thayer Public Library, complete and mail this form to:  
Friends of Thayer Public Library, 798 Washington St., Braintree, MA 02184.

Annual Dues: Individual, \$10; Dual/Family, \$20; Patron, \$50; Contributing, \$100 or more. Your contribution may be tax-deductible.

For my enrollment as a member of the Friends of Thayer Public Library, I enclose my annual dues of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Please make check payable to "Friends of Thayer Public Library" **Thank you!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_

Area of interest/activity with the Friends: Book Sale \_\_\_\_\_ Hospitality \_\_\_\_\_ Concerts/Special Events \_\_\_\_\_

Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Board of Directors \_\_\_\_\_ Call me to discuss these or other areas \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to support the Friends, but cannot be active at this time \_\_\_\_\_

For more information call 781-848-0405 x4002