



**2024**

Timberland Regional **LIBRARY**

**Annual Report**







The Reptile Lady visited Winlock Timberland Library. These events are often standing room only as one of the most well-attended Summer Library Program events.

# Message from Executive Director



Welcome to another extraordinary year for TRL!

In 2024, we,

- Provided increased programs for all ages at all libraries.
- Launched a new online store offering TRL merchandise.
- Initiated Expanded Access Hours at the Amanda Park, and Salkum Libraries (in addition to Westport, Tenino, Elma, McCleary, Ilwaco, Ocean Park, Packwood, Hoodspoint), which allows you to access these libraries beyond regularly staff hours for eligible patrons 14 years and up, 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. daily including holidays.
- Bolstered Anywhere Library – mobile services - into Lewis and Grays Harbor counties, (in addition to Thurston, Mason, and Pacific Counties) reaching more than 15,000 people at hundreds of locations throughout the 5-county area.
- Launched the monthly No Shhh...It's the TRL Podcast where we talk about our approach to library services.
- Created a playscape, "The Jolly Reader" sunken pirate ship built by staff to the children's space at the Shelton library.
- Refreshed the Westport and Salkum libraries – new layouts, furniture, enhanced children's area with play structures, improved staff workflows, flooring, and paint.
- Construction of a new Mountain View Library (8 months in the making!) the first in decades, Grand Opening January 11, 2025.
- Received for the 5th year in a row a clean financial audit, and a clean accountability audit from the State Auditor's Office.
- 2025-2029 Strategic Direction collaboration, with community members, staff, and the Board of Trustees.

We accomplished the above and more while considering changing usage patterns, population, demographics, community needs, technology, and finances.

The Board of Trustees and Leadership have a responsibility to think creatively about library services throughout the 5-county region to ensure long-term financial health and sustainability. We embrace continuous improvements to services, building an organization that is adaptable to future community needs.

This final year of the 2020-2024 Strategic Direction has seen the completion of multi-year projects and the beginning of multi-year future ones. Exciting times!

Thank you to the Board of Trustees and to the 255 staff for their efforts in making 2024 so eventful.

Cheryl








Over 300 patrons gathered at the Olympia Timberland Library to see dynamic duo Coventry & Kaluza perform their comedy and circus act.


# 2020-2024 Strategic Direction


The Timberland Regional Library Strategic Direction for 2020-2024 was developed through community and staff participation with our Board of Trustees strategic planning committee.

We appreciate the time and effort that was given to understand the needs within the community, identify areas of focus that we assist with, and then align our resources to create positive change in those areas.


**MISSION**  
Welcoming everyone to a vibrant world of possibilities.  
Connecting people, places, and ideas.  
Evolving to meet the needs of our communities.

**VISION**  
Libraries connecting to our communities.


**WE VALUE**  
Access for all. Working together.  
Diverse communities and ideas.  
Responsible use of public resources.

**WE WILL FOCUS ON LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

- Sharing local culture.
- Increasing our presence in under-served communities.
- Creating opportunities for inter-generational connection.


**EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION**

- Reaching those with disabilities and other access barriers.
- Reflecting under-represented groups in our collections, staff, and services.
- Partnering with local agencies and organizations to support diverse communities.

**CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO FIVE**

- Providing appealing spaces and engaging experiences.
- Clarifying what they need and how to provide for those needs.
- Empowering them to build relationships with the library & within their communities.

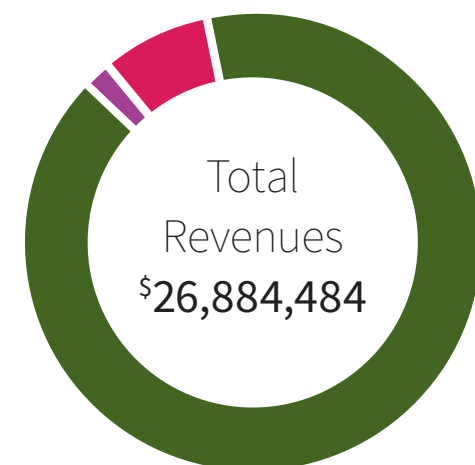


 <b>BORROW</b> Assistive Devices eBooks and Books Movies Audiobooks	 <b>PARTICIPATE</b> Storytimes Book Groups Arts & Crafts Meeting Space	 <b>DISCOVER</b> Legal Forms Auto Repair Homework Help History & Genealogy	 <b>CONNECT</b> Wifi Printing Computers Job Search
--	---	---	---

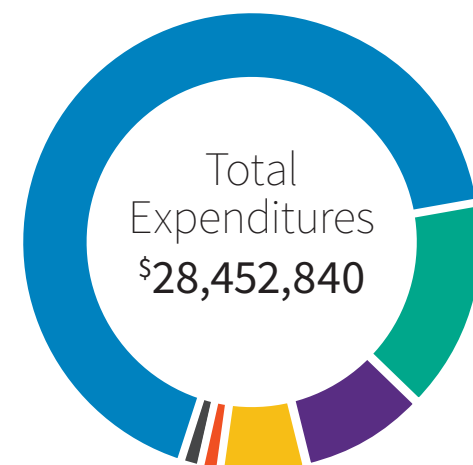




*My kids download audiobooks and enjoy the incredible digital collection that TRL offers, but nothing compares to being known by name as you walk in the door and finding that gift of a book on the shelf.*  
Library Patron



\$24,544,859	Property Taxes.....	91.29%	●
\$1,871,325	Timber.....	6.96%	●
\$468,300	Other.....	1.74%	●



67.41%	Salaries & Benefits.....	\$19,180,404
14.92%	Books & Materials.....	\$4,247,376
8.40%	Other.....	\$2,392,563
6.18%	Professional Services.....	\$1,758,910
1.60%	Supplies.....	\$455,387
1.46%	Capital Expenditures.....	\$418,199

Physical Checkouts .....	2,678,605
OverDrive Total.....	2,119,734
Kanopy.....	100,092


**Total Circulation .....4,898,431**


Wi-Fi Sessions.....	141,182
Library of Things Checkouts .....	3,034
LaunchPads Checkouts.....	18,429

Print Jobs.....	743,470
Sheets of Paper Used .....	3,401,895

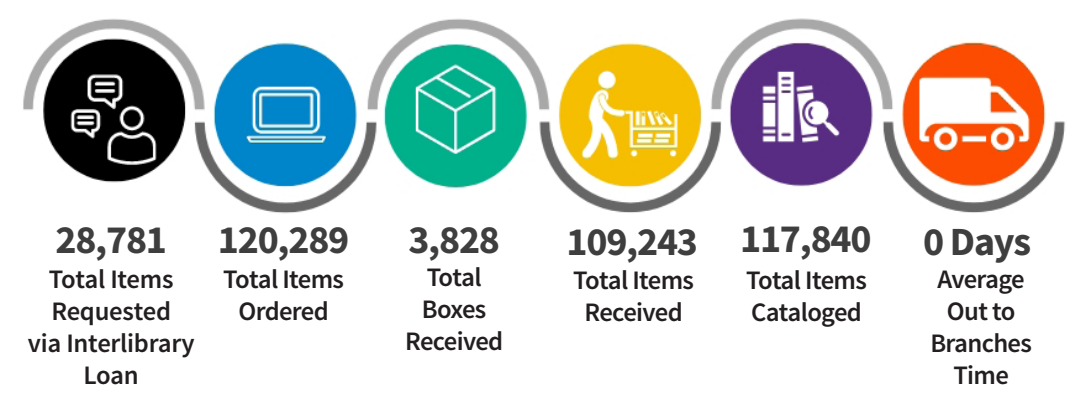
New Patrons .....	44,223
New OverDrive Patrons.....	19,553
Active Patrons.....	342,104

 **AskLib**  
4,157 emails

 **Live Chat**  
2,689 Chats

 **Grab Bags**  
238 Bags

### Turnaround Time for New Collection Items









Kids practice reading aloud to therapy dogs at Shelton Library's Dog Tales program.

Social Media

 Facebook  
**325K** Reach  
**42.3K** Visits  
**131K** Views  
**21K** Interactions

 Instagram  
**277K** Reach  
66% Non-followers  
**213.6K** Views  
**19.6K** Content Interactions

 TikTok  
**2.1M** Video Views  
**68K** Likes  
**2.2K** Comments  
**4.6K** Shares

  
**12.6M**

 YouTube  
**138K** Video Views  
**1.1K** Subscribers

*My baby is 21 now - this program (storytime) saved my life. Military wife, knew no one, loves books - the time at Tumwater Library was pretty important to me - thank you all for that. It was a lifeline and I thank you!*  
Therese Downey Murphy

*I went to the library today for the first time in a few months and MY GOSH I forgot how much I love it.*  
Shelby Andrist

*I love all librarians!! Thank you for all that you do!!*  
Tina Zielinski



Anne G. starred in a TikTok video that gained 1.5 million views.





## Podcast



**573** Streams

**203** Consumption Hours

**139** Followers



**4.4K** Views

**455** Hours Watched



**102** Followers

Join us as we delve into crucial library topics, gain insights into the inner workings of libraries, and cultivate a greater appreciation for their relevance in today's hyper-connected world on No Shhh...It's the TRL Podcast!

Available on your favorite podcast platform:

[Apple Podcasts](#) | [Spotify](#) | [TRL YouTube](#)



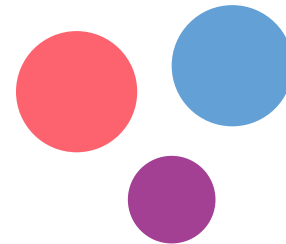




# Anywhere LIBRARY

TRL.org/Anywhere

Anywhere Library is a mobile library that brings TRL materials and services directly to community sites.



**720**  
Library Stops

**97**  
Special Events

**7,800**  
Checkouts

**15,583**  
Attendance

**348**  
Storytimes  
& Classes

**1,206**  
Summer Library  
Books Distributed

**97**  
Give Away: Laptops,  
Tablets, Hotspots





## New Library Cards

### Freedom to Read

At Timberland Regional Library, we continue to uphold the core values of librarianship and constitutional right of the freedom to read for all. We celebrate Banned Books Week to remind ourselves that freedom is never guaranteed and remember free people read freely.

By engaging with banned books, we broaden our understanding of the world and contribute to a more informed and engaged society.” - Janice R

In celebrating Freedom to Read, TRL offered a limited edition library card in addition to new clothing designs in the online store.



### Hispanic American Heritage Month

In celebration of Hispanic American Heritage Month, TRL offered a new library card designed by artist Angie Hinojos.

Angie Hinojos is the Executive Director and co-founder of Centro Cultural Mexicano in Redmond. Angie received a degree in Architecture from UC Berkeley and utilizes her experience as a public artist to strengthen community connections. Angie is Chair of the Board of Trustees for Cascadia College and Chair of the Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs. She is a board member of 4Culture.







# Service Highlights

## Expanded Access Hours

Expanded Access Hours (EAH) is available from 7 am until the library opens and after the library closes until 8 pm, seven days a week (including holidays). During EAH hours, staff are not in the building.

New Locations:

Amanda Park  
Salkum

2,525 EAH Card Holders

12 Locations



## Books by Mail Service



The Books by Mail service helps remove barriers and increase ease of access for patrons who cannot visit their library due to physical disability or lack of transportation.

Visit: [TRL.org/books-by-mail](https://TRL.org/books-by-mail)

2044 Mailings

## 2 Million Checkouts



Our patrons reached a new milestone in 2024: 2 million+ digital titles borrowed. This achievement illustrates the library's commitment to serving all members of the community in innovative ways, including with a large catalog of eBooks, audiobooks and other digital media.

"We are incredibly excited that Timberland Regional Library readers surpassed 2 million checkouts for the first time," said Kim Storbeck, Collection Services Manager at TRL. "We are delighted to serve readers of all interests and ages with this free, always growing, and diverse collection."





# Shelton Refresh

On March 9, “The Jolly Reader”, a sunken pirate ship, debuted at the Shelton Timberland Library to over 200 children, patrons, and community members. The pirate ship offers an impressive imaginative play and learning structure with a cozy reading nook with port holes, a secret treasure trove hidden beneath, as well as interactive stations for rope tying, climbing, dress up, and a working ships wheel.

The pirate ship built entirely by the Timberland Regional Library’s facilities staff, is a sizeable 26 feet long, 17 feet wide. The ship is ADA accessible with

activities for kids ages 0-12 with imaginative features such as a crow’s nest with a parrot watching from above, floating jellyfish that bob in the underwater-style lighting, and many openings to climb in and out of the ship. For their youngest of patrons, there is an area with age-appropriate manipulative toys for learning and building hand/eye coordination.



Watch our highlight video on our YouTube.



Wow! This is amazing!  
Better than anything I  
could have imagined!  
Good job everyone!  
Ashley Gonzales



Libraries are magical.  
Kait Toompas



It’s amazing! My little has  
already been three times this  
week, the grandparents just took  
him today. Thank you to all who made  
this happen, it’s such a special treat to  
have something so fun in our small  
town. I’ve never seen a cooler  
library for kids.  
Lori Baderdeen Larson





## Westport Refresh

### Key New Features:

- Flooring and paint
- Enhanced children's area with a beach house play structure
- Furniture and beach inspired art & decor
- Upgraded lighting, electrical, and data
- Circulation desk and holds pick up area
- Upgraded staff work area and office space



Watch our highlight video on our YouTube.

*Love that y'all are bringing a new life into our libraries!*  
Shannon Elizabeth Scott

*Beautiful! Kids will love and enjoy that space.*  
Sylvia Barrera

*What a lovely, inviting library!! It looks fantastic!!*  
Suzanne Williams



*Wow!!!! That looks amazing!!! Way to give back to the community!!!!*  
Kyna Wilson







Salkum Refresh



- Key New Features:
- Flooring and paint
  - Enhanced children's area with play structure
  - Furniture and country inspired art & decor
  - Upgraded lighting, electrical, and data
  - Circulation desk and holds pick up area
  - Upgraded staff work area for improved workflow



Watch our highlight video on our YouTube.



*Congratulations!  
The new library is  
wonderful.*  
Barbara Fischer

*So many fun  
toys too! My kids  
had a blast.*  
Marisa Pollock

*Looks like  
the best library!*  
Castandforphoto

*My kids loved it!!*  
Lauren Urich

*That's just so cool!*  
Jordy Beasley-Ratkie







Operations Technician  
Skyler Voie and his family in  
front of the 2-story mushroom  
play structure Voie and the  
Facilities team constructed.

# A Library from Scratch: Mountain View



Judi Brummett  
Library Manager



On January 24, 2024 Lewis County Trustees Hal Blanton and Brian Mittge made a motion to approve the construction of a new library building in Randle for \$2.2 million dollars.

## Key Features of the New Library Building:

- **Size:** 3,400 square feet with an open concept providing ample space for a diverse collection of books, multimedia resources, and community gathering areas.
- **Location:** On Hwy 12 within walking distance of White Pass Elementary and Jr/Sr High Schools.
- **Drive-thru window:** To serve patrons on the move.
- **Design:** Four-season glass meeting room space that opens into the library to allow for additional room for large programs or events.
- **New Children & Teens Areas:** The new children's area has ample room for exploring, family time, and space for parents to relax while their children are playing, reading, or attending a story time or program. An area for teens provides a fun and vibrant space for teens to play video games, hang out, or quietly study or read.
- **Accessibility:** The space has plenty of comfortable seating, low shelving for displays and quick access to the newest and latest books and materials.
- **Expanded access:** The new library offers Expanded Access Hours.



Watch our highlight video  
on our YouTube.





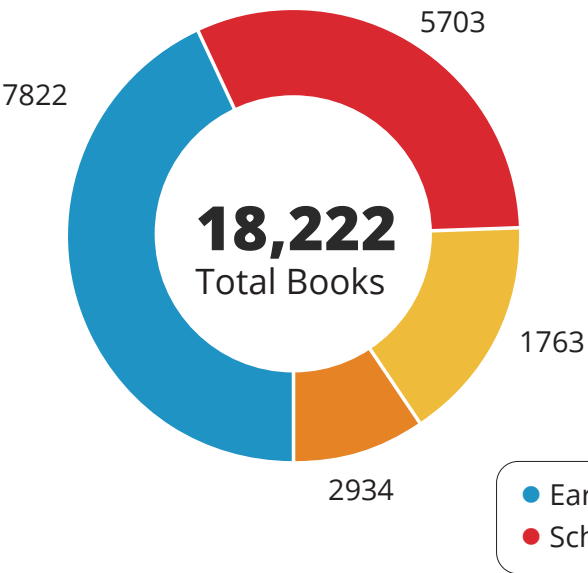


JUNE 1 TO AUGUST 31

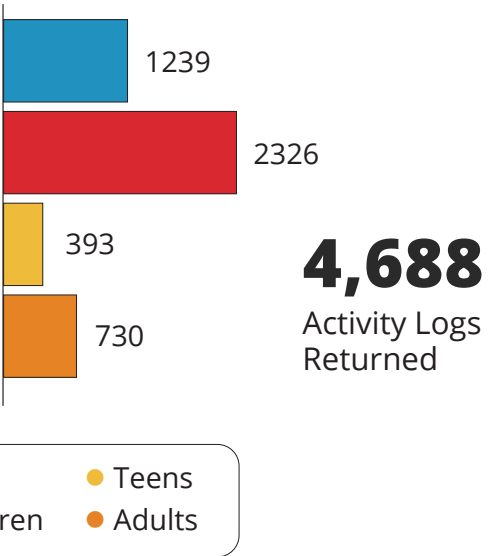
Summer Library Program (SLP) is about more than reading, it's about exploring nature and our imagination, creating crafts and new opportunities, and learning about new things and about ourselves.



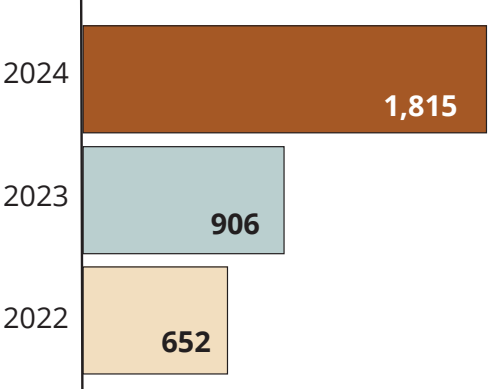
Books Distribution by Age Group



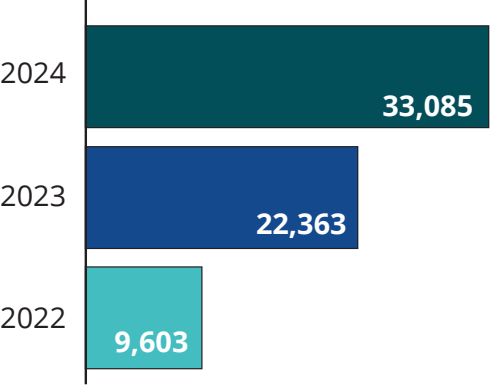
Returned Activity Logs by Age Group



Number of Programs



Program Attendance



Sponsored Prizes Distributed to Youth

Thanks to the generosity of Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium/Northwest Trek, and the Tacoma Rainiers, TRL gave youth who completed 10 SLP activities a free zoo pass and Rainiers ticket, while supplies lasted!



**2,967**  
Distributed  
Passes



**2,368**  
Distributed  
Passes





Regular patrons of the Centralia Library sporting their new library shirts.

# Online Store

In celebration of Library Giving Day on April 3, Timberland Regional Library launched a new online store offering exclusive TRL merchandise such as T-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, baby onesies and tote bags.

[TRL.org/Store](https://www.trl.org/Store)

500 Items Sold



Access and Content Director Andrea H. showing her support in a TRL shirt.

All proceeds from our store are considered donations to the general gift fund, directly supporting our mission.





**MARY BETH HARRINGTON**  
President  
Thurston County  
Term expires: 12/2030

**The 2025 Board of Trustees:**  
Toni Gwin, President, Pacific County  
Brian Mittge, President Elect Lewis County  
Hal Blanton, Lewis County  
Mary Beth Harrington, Thurston County  
Dustin Loup, Grays Harbor County



**TONI GWIN**  
President Elect  
Pacific County  
Term expires: 12/2028



**BRIAN MITTGE**  
Lewis County  
Term expires: 12/2029



**DUSTIN LOUP**  
Grays Harbor County  
Term expires: 12/2027



**ASHLEY BROOKS**  
Member-at-Large  
Thurston County  
Term expires: 12/2026



**HAL BLANTON**  
Member-at-Large  
Lewis County  
Term expires: 12/2025



**KEN SEBBY**  
Mason County  
Term expires: 12/2024

Timberland Regional Library's 255 staff, 29 public libraries, and mobile services provides services to the 550,000+ residents of five counties in Southwest Washington State: Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston Counties.



GRAYS  
HARBOR

Aberdeen, Amanda Park, Elma, Hoquiam,  
McCleary, Montesano, Oakville, Westport



Timberland Regional Library (TRL) recognizes that we operate within the traditional territories of the Nisqually Indian Tribe, Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, Quinault Indian Nation, Skokomish Indian Tribe, and Squaxin Island Tribe who have been stewards of these lands since time immemorial. TRL provides library services to Indigenous tribes, extending beyond the geographic limits of Lewis, Mason, Thurston, Pacific, and Grays Harbor Counties. This acknowledgment reminds us to strive for respectful partnerships with all people as we search for collective healing and learn how to be better stewards of the indigenous lands we inhabit.



## GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

**Aberdeen Timberland Library**  
121 East Market Street; 360.533.2360

**Amanda Park Timberland Library**  
6118 US Highway 101; 360.288.2725

**Elma Timberland Library**  
119 North 1st Street; 360.482.3737

**Hoquiam Timberland Library**  
420 7th Street; 360.532.1710

**McCleary Timberland Library**  
121 South 4th Street; 360.495.3368

**Montesano Timberland Library**  
W.H. Abel Memorial Library  
125 Main Street South; 360.249.4211

**Oakville Timberland Library**  
204 Main Street; 360.273.5305

**Westport Timberland Library**  
101 East Harms Drive; 360.268.0521

## PACIFIC COUNTY

**Ilwaco Timberland Library**  
158 1st Avenue North; 360.642.3908

**Naselle Timberland Library**  
4 Parpala Road; 360.539.3327

**Ocean Park Timberland Library**  
1308 256th Place; 360.665.4184

**Raymond Timberland Library**  
507 Duryea Street; 360.942.2408

**South Bend Timberland Library**  
1st and Pacific; 360.875.5532

**Shoalwater Bay Tribal Community Library**  
4115 State Route 105, Tokeland; 360.267.8190

## MASON COUNTY

**Hoodsport Timberland Library**  
40 N Schoolhouse Hill Road; 360.877.9339

**North Mason Timberland Library (Belfair)**  
23081 NE State Rt 3; 360.275.3232

**Shelton Timberland Library**  
**William G. Reed Public Library**  
710 W Alder Street; 360.426.1362

## THURSTON COUNTY

**Hawks Prairie Timberland Library**  
8205 Martin Way; 360.252.9658

**Lacey Timberland Library**  
500 College Street Southeast; 360.491.3860

**Olympia Timberland Library**  
313 8th Avenue Southeast; 360.352.0595

**Tenino Timberland Library**  
172 Central Avenue West; 360.539.3329

**Tumwater Timberland Library**  
7023 New Market Street; 360.943.7790

**West Olympia Timberland Library**  
625 Black Lake Blvd SW; 360.764.4440

**Yelm Timberland Library**  
210 Prairie Park Street; 360.539.3330

**Book Return - Fire District 3, Station 35**  
3701 Willamette Drive, Lacey

**Book Return - West Olympia**  
1313 Cooper Point Road Southwest

**Rainier Book Drop at Rainier City Hall**  
102 Rochester Street West, Rainier

## LEWIS COUNTY

**Centralia Timberland Library**  
110 South Silver Street; 360.736.0183

**Vernetta Smith Chehalis Timberland Library**  
400 North Market Boulevard; 360.748.3301

**Mountain View Timberland Library**  
10111 US Highway 12, Randle; 360.497.2665

**Packwood Timberland Library**  
109 West Main Street; 360.494.5111

**Salkum Timberland Library**  
2480 US Highway 12; 360.539.3328

**Winlock Timberland Library**  
322 Northeast 1st Street; 360.785.3461

**Toledo Community Library Kiosk**  
241 Cowlitz Street ; 360.864.4247

## ANYWHERE LIBRARY

**Mobile Services**  
TRL.org/Anywhere for upcoming Library Stops

## FOLLOW



[linktr.ee/timberlandlibrary](https://linktr.ee/timberlandlibrary)

## CONTACT

Timberland Regional LIBRARY  
415 Tumwater Boulevard SW  
Tumwater, Washington 98501-5799  
[asklib@TRL.org](mailto:asklib@TRL.org) • 360.943.5001 • [TRL.org](https://TRL.org)