



Library Book Donations List

Please review this list of book types we accept and do not accept at the Veterans Village library. Once donated books are received, they will be vetted by program staff prior to being placed in the library.

Accepted Book Types

1. Military & Veteran-Focused Book

Examples:

- The Things They Carried – Tim O'Brien
- Matterhorn – Karl Marlantes
- Make Your Bed: Little Things That Can Change Your Life...And Maybe the World – Admiral William H. McRaven
- Thank You for Your Service – David Finkel

2. Mental Health & Wellness

Examples:

- The Body Keeps the Score – Bessel van der Kolk
- The Resilience Factor – Karen Reivich & Andrew Shatté
- Man's Search for Meaning – Viktor E. Frankl
- The Art of Happiness – Dalai Lama

3. Personal Development & Self-Help

Examples:

- Atomic Habits – James Clear
- Can't Hurt Me: Master Your Mind and Defy the Odds – David Goggins
- The Power of Now – Eckhart Tolle
- Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance – Angela Duckworth

4. Fiction & Classic Literature

Examples:

- For Whom the Bell Tolls – Ernest Hemingway
- Slaughterhouse-Five – Kurt Vonnegut
- Lonesome Dove – Larry McMurtry
- To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee

5. Biographies & Memoirs



Examples:

- American Sniper – Chris Kyle
- Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption – Laura Hillenbrand
- Born a Crime – Trevor Noah
- Educated – Tara Westover

6. Hobbies & Skill-Building

Examples:

- The Joy of Cooking – Irma S. Rombauer
- Gardening for Everyone – Julia Watkins
- The Total Money Makeover – Dave Ramsey
- Woodworking Basics – Peter Korn

7. Spirituality & Inspiration

Examples:

- The Purpose Driven Life – Rick Warren
- Meditations – Marcus Aurelius
- Wild at Heart – John Eldredge
- Tuesdays with Morrie – Mitch Albom

Book Types Not Accepted

1. Graphic or Traumatic War Stories

- Books that focus heavily on the horrors of war, PTSD, or military failures may be triggering.
- Example: Jarhead – Anthony Swofford (contains cynical and disillusioned perspectives on military service).

2. Books Glorifying Violence or War Crimes

- Works that depict excessive violence, brutality, or glorify war without nuance.
- Example: American Psycho – Bret Easton Ellis.

3. Highly Political or Divisive Books

- Avoid books that may promote extreme political views, as they can create tension among residents.
- Examples: The Art of the Deal – Donald Trump; The Audacity of Hope – Barack Obama.

4. Erotic Literature

- Romance novels with overly graphic sexual content.



- Example: Fifty Shades of Grey – E.L. James.

6. True Crime & Serial Killer Books

- Can be unsettling and anxiety-inducing for some veterans.
- Example: Helter Skelter – Vincent Bugliosi.

7. Outdated or Damaged Books

- Old textbooks, encyclopedias, or books in poor condition.
- Example: 1990s medical or legal guides with outdated information.

9. Books Promoting Substance Abuse

- Avoid books that normalize or glorify excessive drinking or drug use.
- Example: Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas – Hunter S. Thompson.

10. Books That Promote Hopelessness or Suicide

- Some classics and contemporary books explore these topics in ways that could be triggering.
- Example: The Bell Jar – Sylvia Plath.