

# We're Fine Free!

## Why Fine Free?

The Ajax Public Library Board proudly adopted a Fine-Free Model on November 26, 2020, eliminating all overdue fines for Library customers. This helps us achieve our mission of providing information and resources that better the lives of Ajax residents.

- Access to Library materials is not determined by a resident's economic status.
- Overdue fines are not expected to be a sustainable revenue stream for public libraries in the future.
- Fine-free libraries experience increased circulation, and stronger relationships with their customers!

**Over 270 libraries across North America have gone fine-free, with overwhelmingly positive experiences!**

### Overdue fines are penalties.



We understand returning your items on time may be difficult on occasion, for any number of reasons. Life happens, and that's okay!

### Items are still returned.



Studies have shown that overdue fines have little effect on item return rates.

### Fine-free welcomes lapsed users back.



We hope to see customers who may have been avoiding the Library because they had an overdue fine.

## What happens if a Library item is not returned on time?

Ajax Public Library has modified our notification process to help ensure materials still get from one customer to another in a timely manner.

1. Customers will receive overdue notices.
2. If an item is not returned after 14 days, the replacement cost is charged to the customer's account.
3. Replacement costs are removed once the item is returned!