

PROGRAMMING WITH YOUR LIBRARY OF THINGS

Rachel Tanner & Hazel Onsrud

WebJunction Webinar March 2026

CENTRAL ARKANSAS LIBRARY SYSTEM

www.cals.org

- Large Urban Library with 15 branches. Largest in the state.
- Lending of many non-traditional items at different branches. Toy Library (340), Musical Instrument Library (8), Tool Library (448)

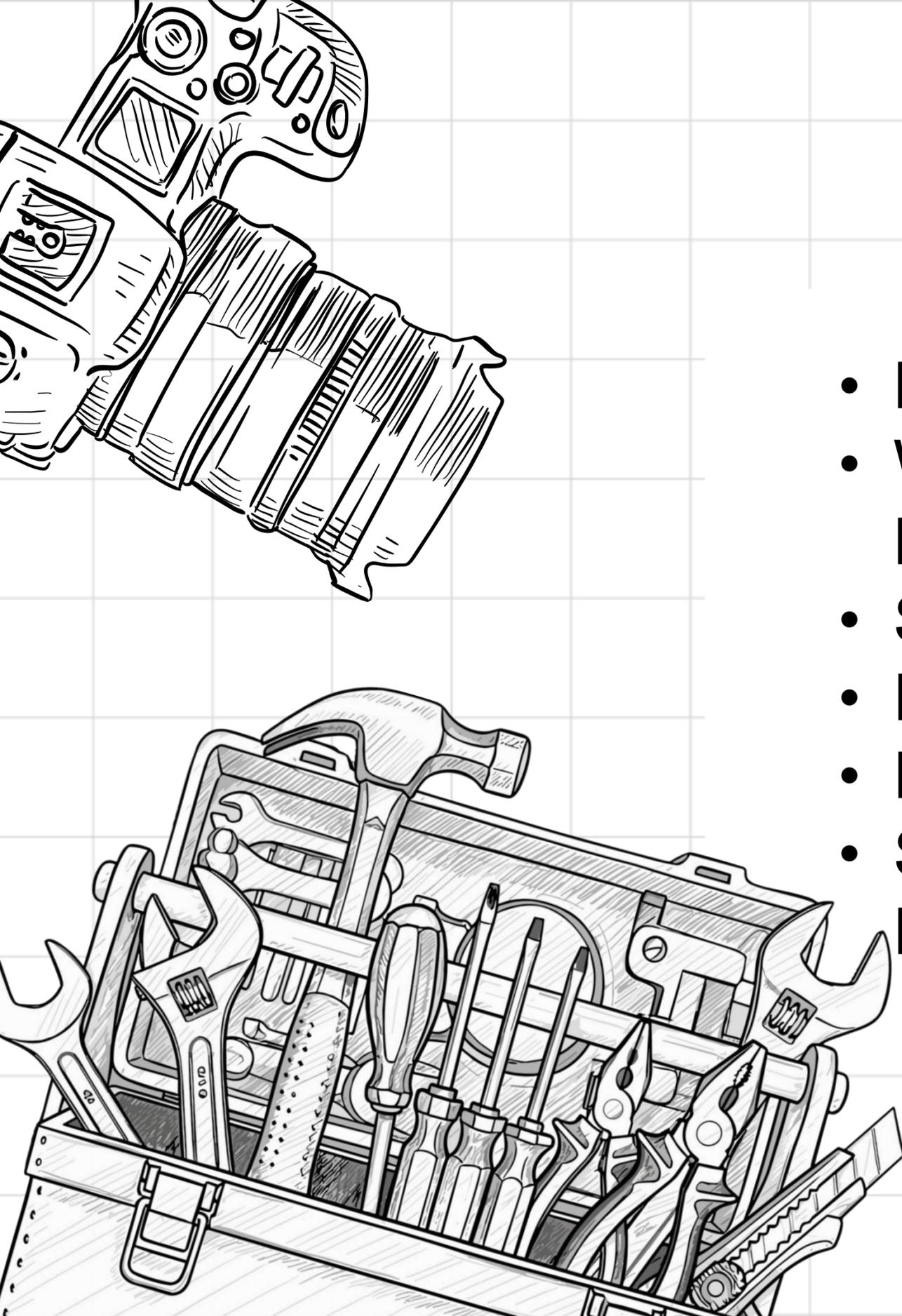
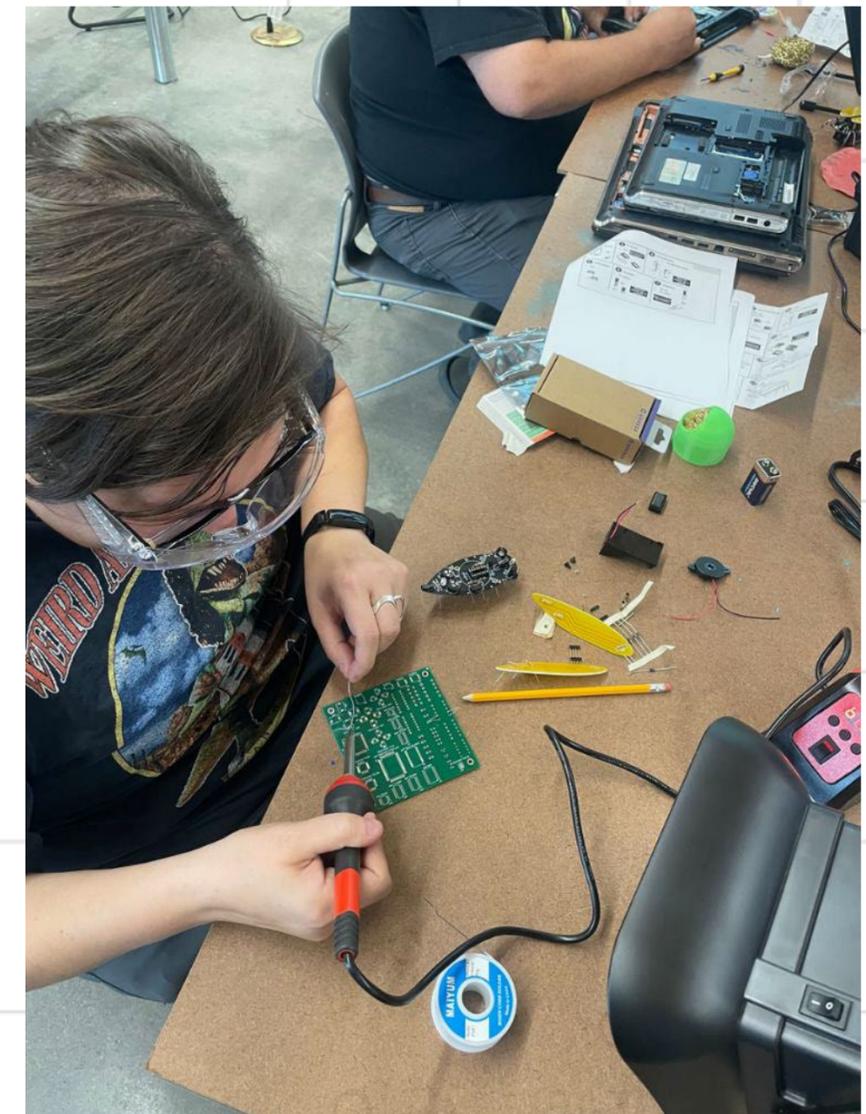
CURTIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

<https://curtislibrary.com/>

- Small and rural library, large library for Maine
- 2000+ items beyond books in kid, teen and adult sections
- Lending of passes to Maine GearShare, museums etc.

AGENDA

- Libraries of Things (LOTs)
- Why program with your LOT?
- Social Equity Programs
- Economic Programs
- Environmental Programs
- Share Your Impact Programs



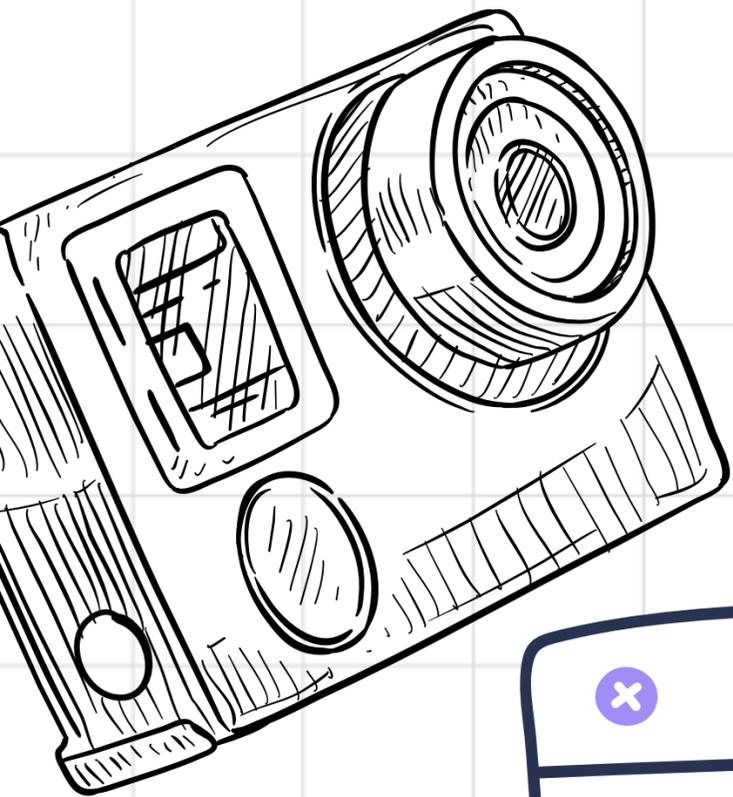
LIBRARIES OF THINGS (LOTS)

...Are everywhere. Join us!



- At the LOT Mutual Aid Group we have a posse of experienced humans to help you
- We have proven this works in traditional libraries (public, specialty, academic and more), community organizations and elsewhere
- We have solutions for storage, insurance, cleanliness, safety, repair, consumables, and so much more...





QUESTION FOR THE CHAT



What are some of the items or tools you successfully lend?

MENDING/DARNING KIT CALS



WHY RUN PROGRAMS WITH YOUR LIBRARIES OF THINGS?

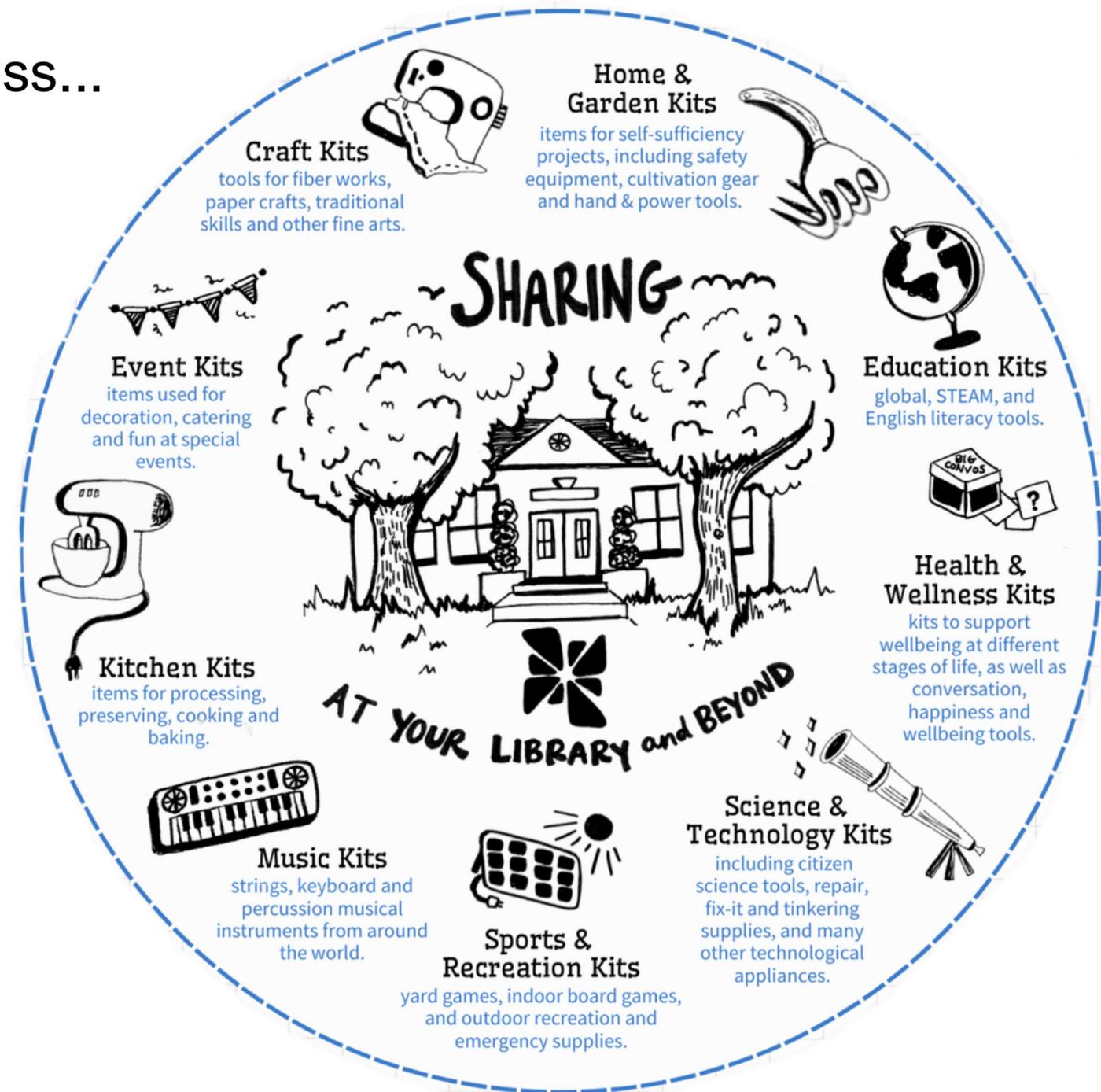


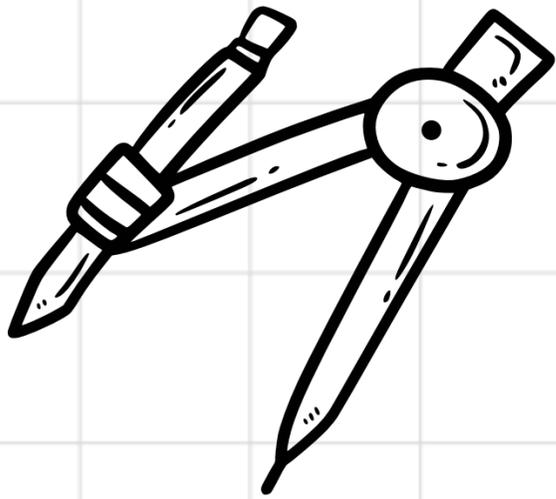
- Meets needs in your communities and helps you address missing literacies
- Engages multigenerations and diversifies stakeholders
- Develops strong partnerships, workforce development and library advocates
- Serves your mission

ESSENTIAL AND MISSING LITERACIES

Libraries of things can also help you address...

- Financial Literacies
- Science & Impact Literacies
- Digital Literacies
- Food and Growing Literacies
- Musical Literacies
- Recreation Literacies
- Cultural Literacies
- STEAM Literacies
- Traditional Skills Literacies
- Repair Literacies
- Health Literacies
- Civic Literacies
- ...

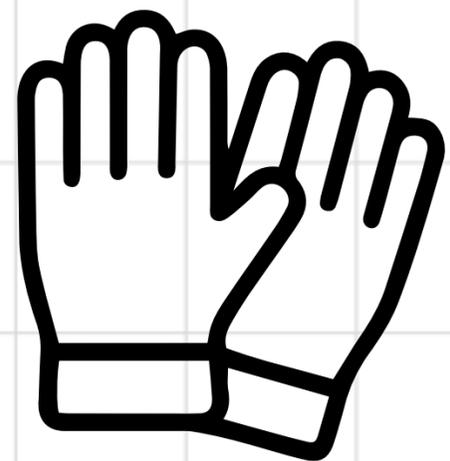
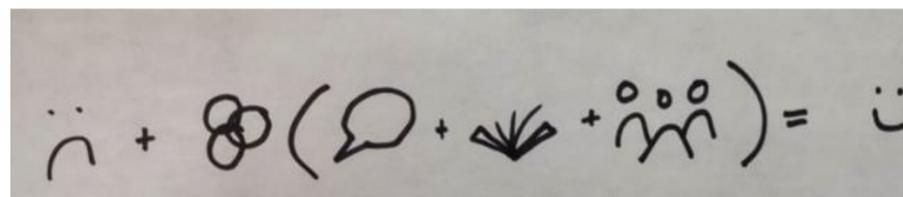


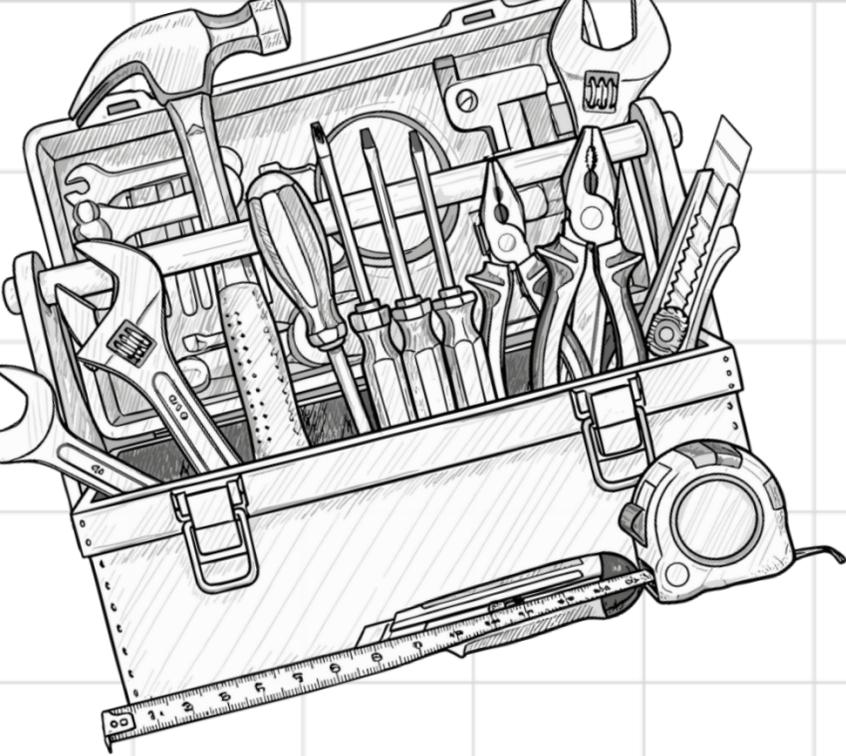


IDENTIFY COMMUNITY NEEDS



- Many frameworks exist to help you organize your investigation at all levels of community. Libraries can help their communities reach
 - The Sustainable Development Goals
 - Regional Stability, such as [Goodwill NNE's Framework](#)
 - State Health metrics <https://map.healthylplacesindex.org>
 - Local Census Data
- Reach out strategically to government and nonprofit organizations that you currently work with or want to learn from and ask how you can help.



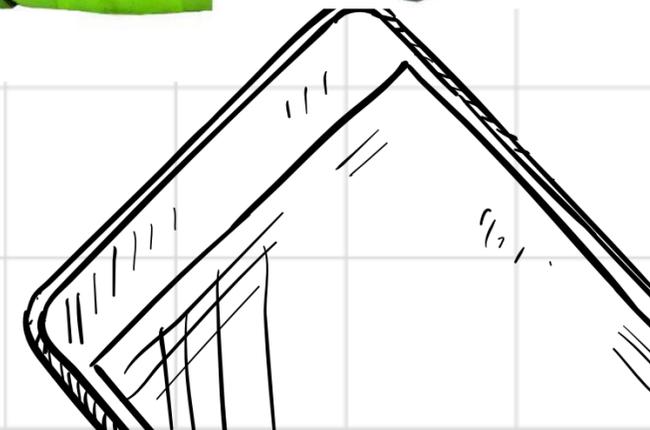


QUESTION FOR THE CHAT

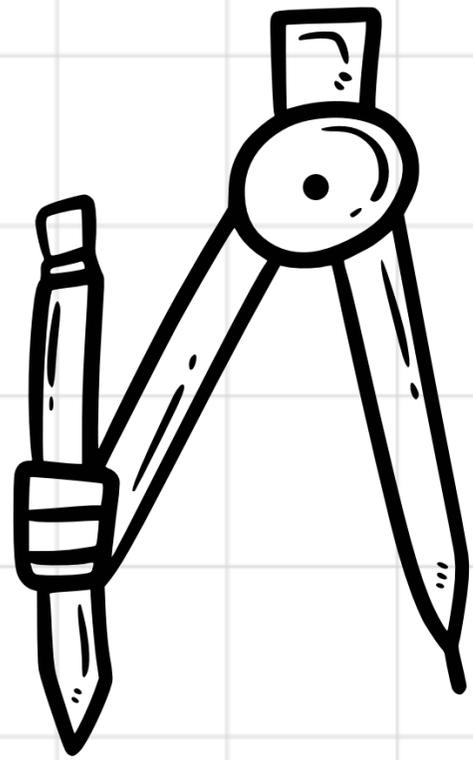


STOP/SLOW PADDLE SIGNALS

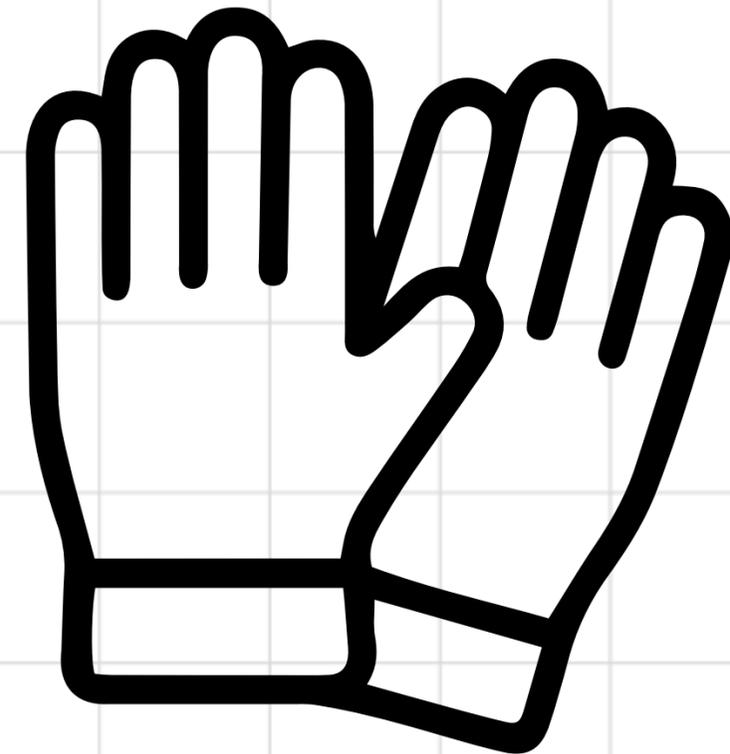
What are some community needs of your library stakeholders?



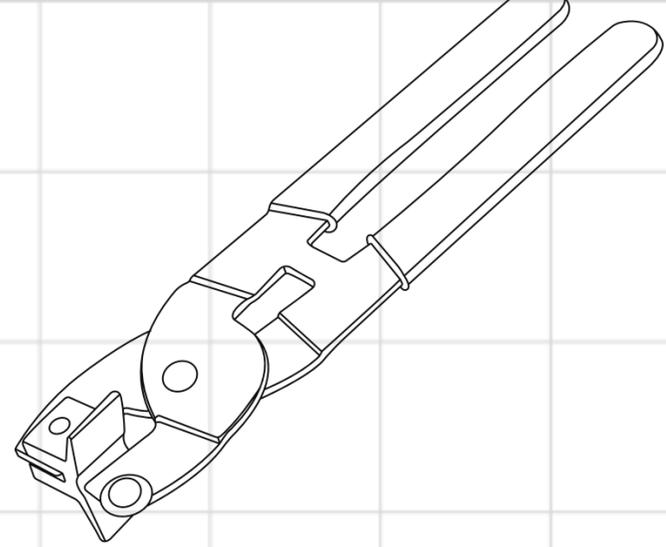
LIBRARY PROGRAMS WITH LOTS CAN BE



Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative



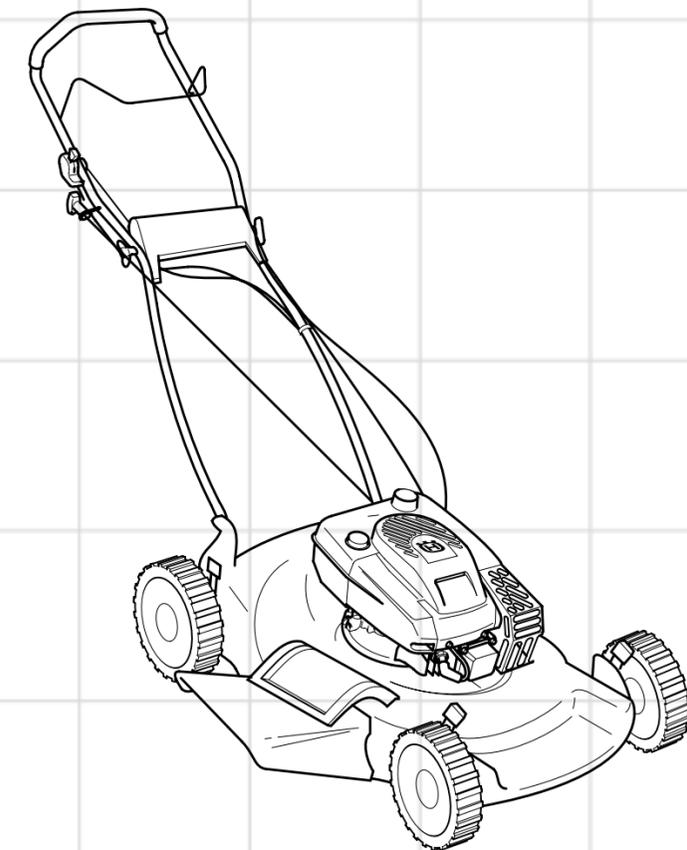
SOCIAL EQUITY PROGRAMS



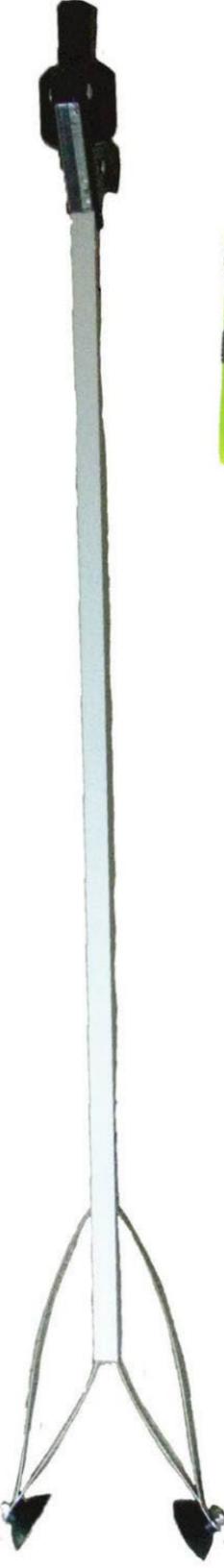
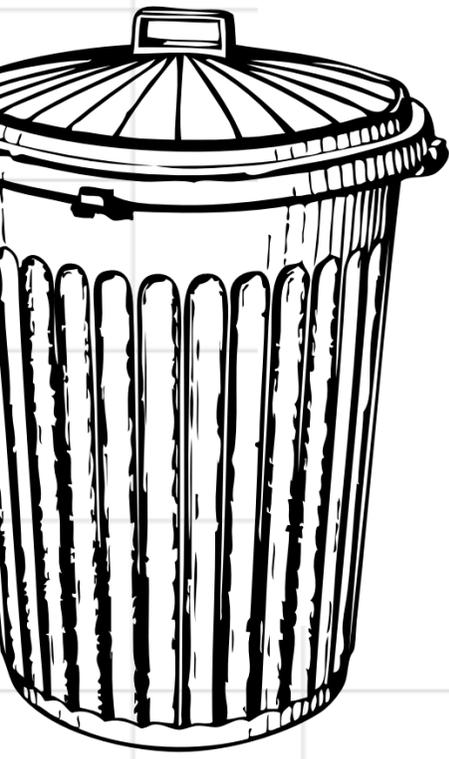
SEWING MACHINE KIT



Library programs can help you meet your societal needs and increase equity in your community. Libraries have space, resources, community trust and so much more to offer entities and agents tackling any of our societal challenges.



Beautification with Litter Clean-Up Kits



Meet the Candidates Nights

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Library of Things



Adjustable Tripod



On Shelf

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Library of Things



Vlogging Kit



Plastic Tote

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Library of Things



Microphone & Wireless Speaker

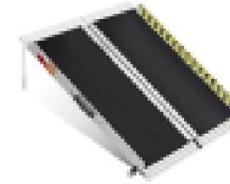


Plastic Tote

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Library of Things



Access Ramp 3 Feet



Storage: Science Cart,
Shelf 4

EVENT
Library of Things



**Table
Aluminum Table**



On Shelf

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Library of Things



Ring Light



Storage: Tech & More Cart,
Shelf 4

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Library of Things



Projector



On Shelf

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Library of Things



250W Travel Adapter



Hanging

EVENT
Library of Things



Counter



Hanging

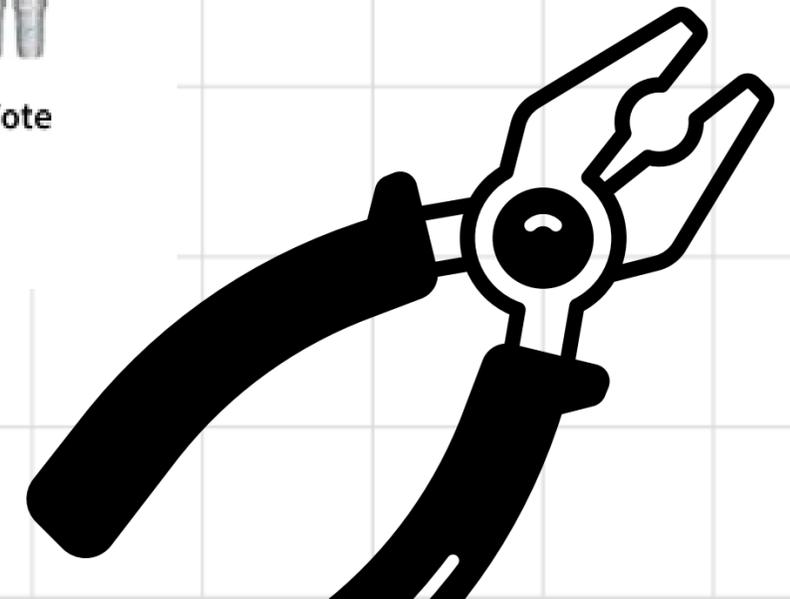
EVENT
Library of Things

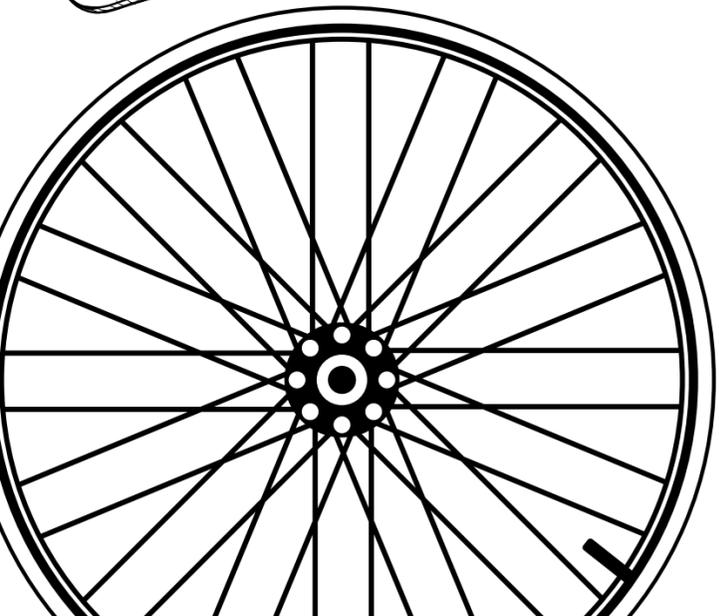
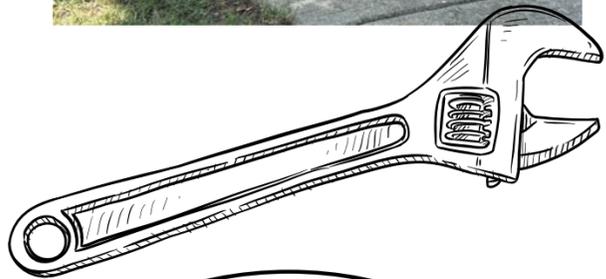


20 Aluminum Cups



Plastic Tote





24 hour Bike Repair + Smart Cycling for Adults



Inclusive Food Programs



FREE TOUR OF THE FARMERS' MARKET

MAY 25TH AND JUNE 1ST AT 10 AM

Join us on a tour of the Farmers' Market at Crystal Springs Farm. All tours are FREE and open to the public, and located at Crystal Springs Farm in Brunswick. Call 207 725 5242 #2 or email refdesk@curtislibrary.com to register.

BRUNSWICK-TOPSHAM LANDTRUST
CURTIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
A world of possibility

www.curtislibrary.com

EAT OUR YARDS

FEBRUARY—MARCH 2019

FOOD FOR THOUGHT TO PLANT YOUR PLOT

Join us as we learn to EAT OUR YARDS in the Morrill Meeting Room. All talks are free and open to the public. Learn more at www.curtislibrary.com/eatouryards

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A world of possibility

www.curtislibrary.com

EAT OUR YARDS SCHEDULE

February 21st Monday 8:30 - 9 PM	Maple Sugaring George and Kate Cooke, Cooke's Maple Farm
March 4th Monday 8:30 - 9 PM	Garden Tools that Work Kate Hiller, Landscape Professional
March 6th Wednesday 8:30 - 9 PM	Marjuana in Maine Stan Wakely, Urban Garden Center - Topsham
March 13th Tuesday 12 - 1:30 PM	Sea Bounty Paul Pyman, Harpswell Harbor Master & Stephen Walsh, Cumberland County Marine Patrol Deputy
March 18th Monday 12 - 1:30 PM	Be Productive Joanne Suley, Master Gardener
March 21st Thursday 8:30 - 9 PM	DIY Medicinals Lucretia Woodruff, Milkweed Farm
March 27th Wednesday 6:30 - 8 PM	Sustainable All: So You Want To Be A Modern Homesteader? Kristen Lie-Holman
March 28th Thursday 6 - 1:30 PM	Growing Space Hazel Omerod, Curtis Memorial Library Staff

www.curtislibrary.com

GROWING LITERACY

JANUARY - MARCH

In 2020, the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust and Curtis Memorial Library are delighted to host a garden lecture series to replace the many successful years of Winter Garden Workshops and Eat Our Yards lectures. All programs are FREE and open to the public.

BRUNSWICK-TOPSHAM LANDTRUST
CURTIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
A world of possibility

www.curtislibrary.com

FREE LOCAL COOKING CLASSES, COOKBOOKS & GROCERIES

MARCH—APRIL 2019

Join us for a SNAP-Ed program that teaches you how to cook! This series is FREE and open to the public, but you must sign up in advance by contacting the 2nd Floor Reference Desk 725-5242 #2. Learn more at www.curtislibrary.com/food

MAINE SNAP-Ed
Healthy Living on a Budget

CURTIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
A world of possibility

www.curtislibrary.com

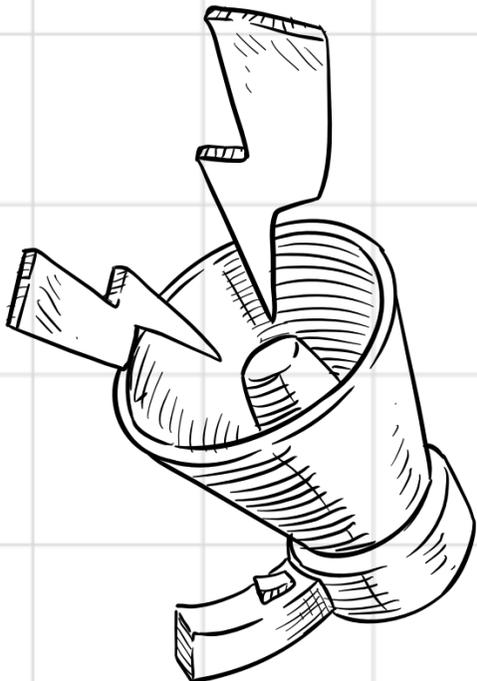
FREE WORMS & BIN (INCLUDING A HARVEST OF CASTINGS)

THURSDAY MARCH 7TH, 5:30—8:00 PM

Wish you had less waste, friendly pet worms and an incredibly productive garden? Learn how to make these dreams come true with Jock Robie of Mainely Worm Bins. Join us at 5:30 PM in the Morrill Meeting Room. This program is free and open to the public. Call the reference desk to sign up (207) 725 5242 x2. Call Hazel with comments or questions: (207) 725 5242 x228.

CURTIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY
A world of possibility

www.curtislibrary.com



Plant Swaps, Seed Swaps, Art Supply Swaps, Hardware Swaps and more



Share items throughout our community, from our Library of Things, and beyond!

When we all share tools, we get access to more things, experiences and opportunities. Join us!

BORROW, RENT, and COOPERATE to join our sharing ecosystem

BORROW

...tools from like minded friends, groups or organizations who choose to own and care for specialty items.

Visit the Curtis Library of Things for tools, kits & equipment for crafts & hobbies; cooking, baking & preserving; home & garden; sports & recreation; music & education; science & technology; genealogy & research... and more! 1500+ things

For adaptive technology equipment, try Maine CITE



For medical supply equipment & aging-in-place aids, check out Harpswell Aging at Home and Partners for World Health



For all-season recreation & camping gear, visit the Maine GearShare and the Adaptive Outdoor Education Center



RENT

...tools you only need occasionally that are too specialized or large for a public library to store and maintain.

To rent commercial kitchen space, visit Mid Coast Hunger Prevention Program



To rent big yard & construction equipment, trailers, rug cleaners, construction tools etc, visit Kennebec Equipment Rental and Home Depot



For specialty automotive tools, try AutoZone



COOPERATE

...to share your tools, services, skills or space, to repair, share or maintain items and experiences for the entire community.

For clothing, home goods, or consumables, rely on the free & resale economy! Freecycle.org; neighborhood groups like Nextdoor; Goodwill; Buy-Nothing groups; Habitat for Humanity ReStore; and more! Plus, check out Curtis' free plant, art supply, and hardware swaps.



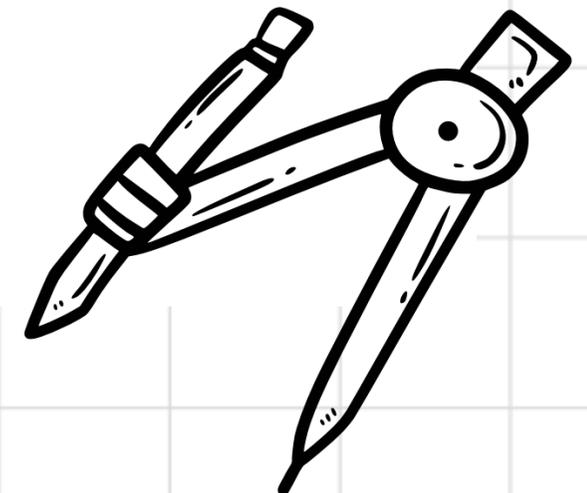
Need something fixed? Visit a Repair Cafe



For FAQ on sustainable waste disposal, check out EcoMaine's Recyclopeda



For more information on these resources, scan this code:



English as Another Language



Languages ⚙️

Home Browse Search Maine Libraries Events Research Connect Kids/Teen Catalog Donate

Hazel CML O. ☰

Keyword in Library Catalog Search

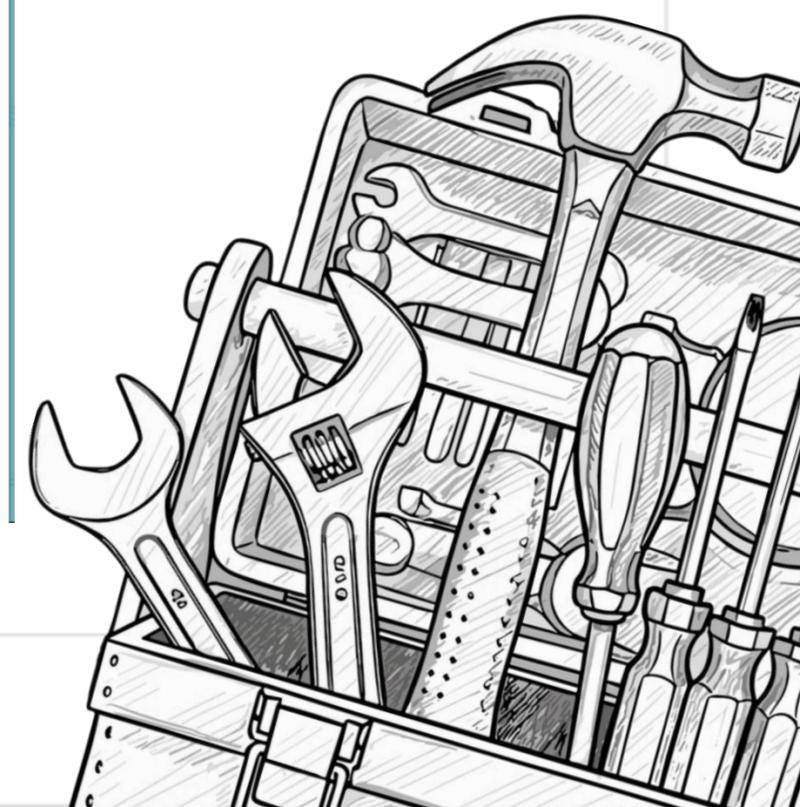
- Library of Things
- Featured Lists
- Staff Picks
- Your Saved Searches
- Books for Black History Month

- NEW
- Health & Wellness
- Event
- Education
- Craft
- Home & Garden
- Kitchen
- Science & Technology
- Music
- Sports & Recreation

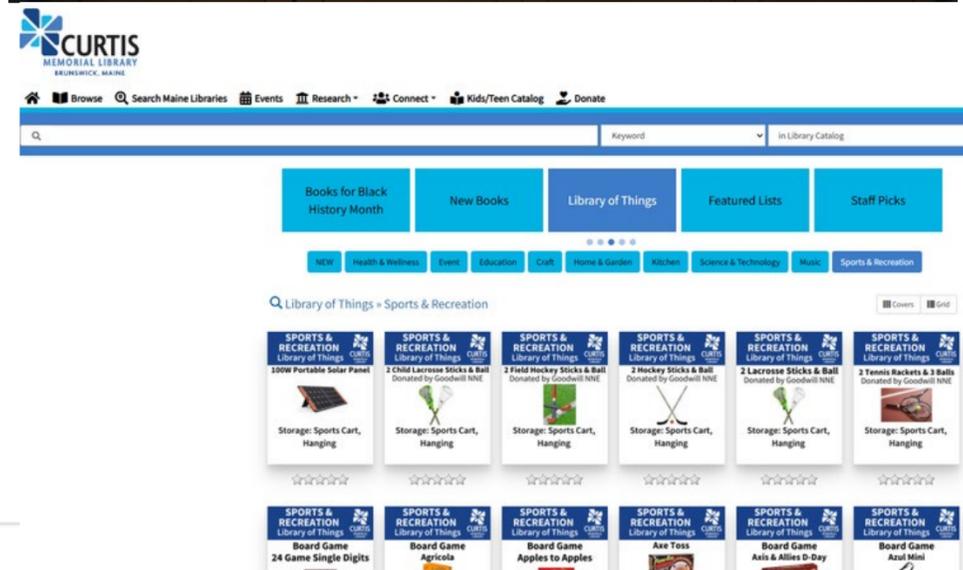
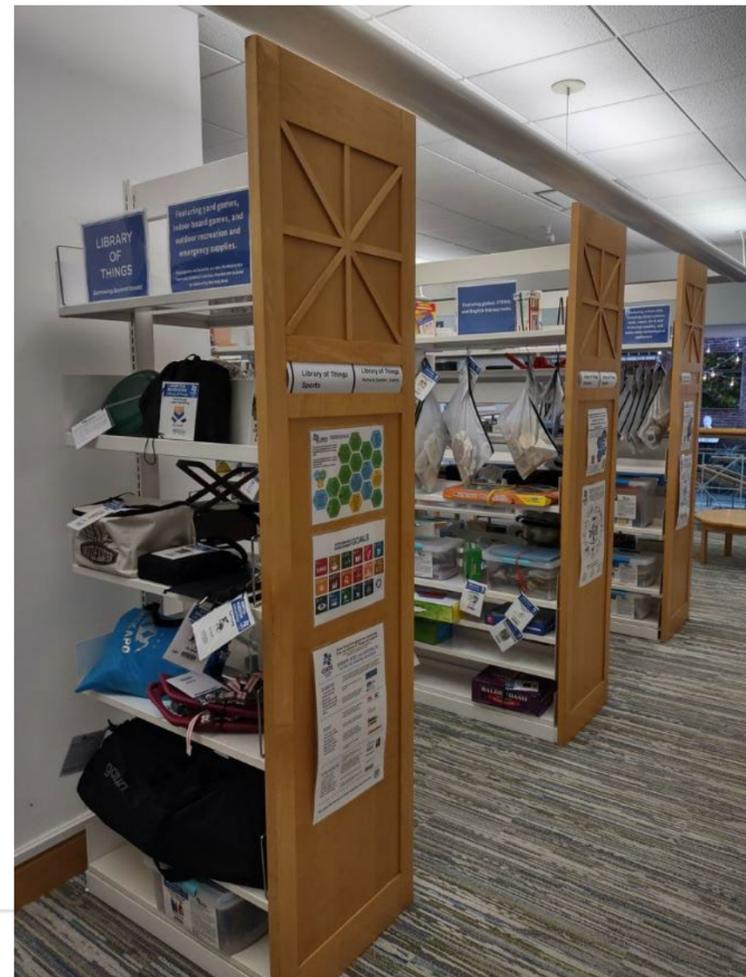
Library of Things » Education

Covers Grid Hide

EDUCATION Library of Things Vocabulary Cards 100 Road Sign Flash Cards Hanging ☆☆☆☆☆	100 Task Cards In A Box ☆☆☆☆☆	EDUCATION Library of Things Flashcards 1100 Words You Need to Know On Shelf ☆☆☆☆☆	EDUCATION Library of Things Math Games & Tools 4 Way Countdown On Shelf ☆☆☆☆☆	EDUCATION Library of Things Geography & Culture Games The 50 States On Shelf ☆☆☆☆☆	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY Library of Things Adafruit Flora Hanging ☆☆☆☆☆
EDUCATION Library of Things Flashcards Addition Hanging ☆☆☆☆☆	EDUCATION Library of Things English Word, Letter and Comprehension Games AGO Q & A Card Game: the Fun Way to Learn English Hanging ☆☆☆☆☆	EDUCATION Library of Things Flashcards Alphabet Hanging ☆☆☆☆☆	EDUCATION Library of Things Vocabulary Cards American English Pronunciation Hanging ☆☆☆☆☆	EDUCATION Library of Things Flashcards American Sign Language On Shelf ☆☆☆☆☆	EDUCATION Library of Things Anatomy Models Human Torso Plastic Tote ☆☆☆☆☆



Get Everyone Outdoors in all Weather



MAINE GEAR SHARE

CURTIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

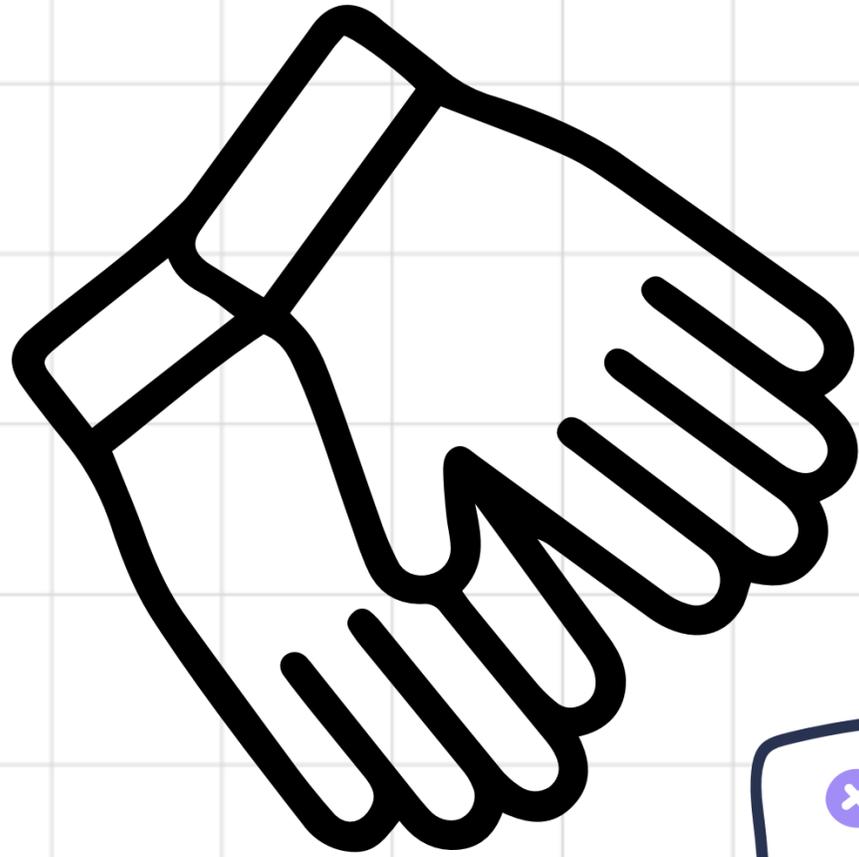
MAINE GEARSHARE PASS AT CURTIS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

CHECK IT OUT!

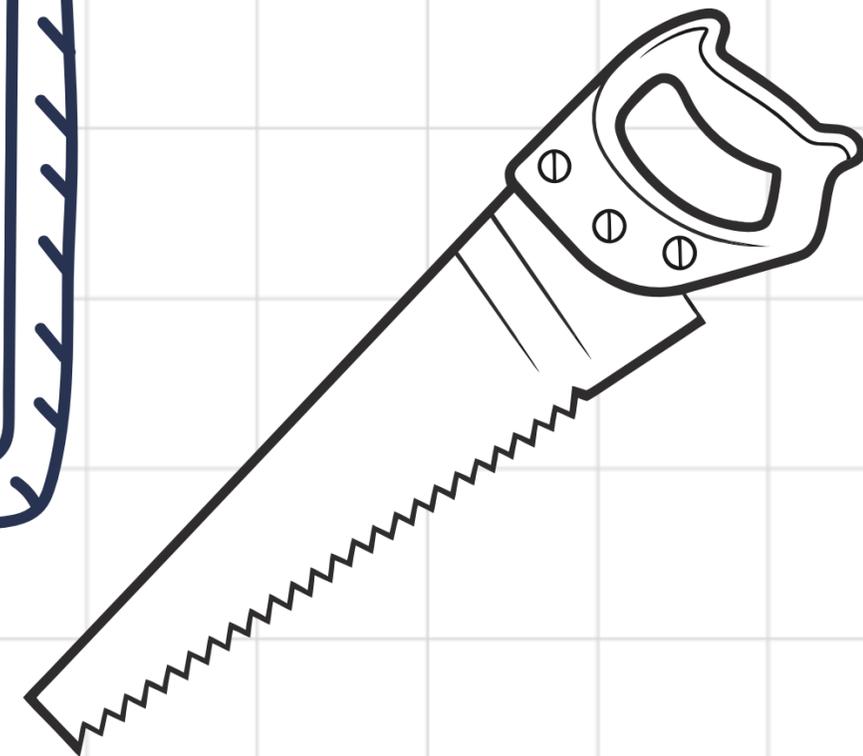
BORROW A PASS FROM THE LIBRARY, CHECK OUT MAINE GEARSHARE EQUIPMENT & GO ON AN ADVENTURE!

SCAN ME

QUESTION FOR THE CHAT



What social equity programs have you run or want to host using items that you could also lend?



ECONOMIC PROGRAMS



Library programs can help you meet your community's economic needs and provide stealth sustainability programming, introducing patrons to a variety of ways to support each other.





Community Repair Events - Repair Cafes

ROTARY HAMMER DRILL
CALS



LINEAR ECONOMY

Take
↓
Make
↓
Use
↓
Waste



RECYCLING ECONOMY

Take
↓
Make
↓
Use
↓
Waste

Recycle →
← Recycle



CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Take
↓
Make
↓
Use
↓
Waste

Recycle →
← Recycle

Repair ←
→ Reuse

Return ↑



CIRCULAR ECONOMY TRASH CANS" BY LEAH GRUBB, 2019 THE FINAL CO. LLC

Repair and adaptation classes for all

HOME & GARDEN
Library of Things



Plumbing Tools
Toilet, Sink, Faucet Wrench



Storage: Home & Garden
Cart 2, Shelf 2

HOME & GARDEN
Library of Things



Drywall Tools



Storage: Home & Garden
Cart 1, Shelf 1

HOME & GARDEN
Library of Things



Oscillating Tool



Storage: Home & Garden
Cart 3, Shelf 2
18+

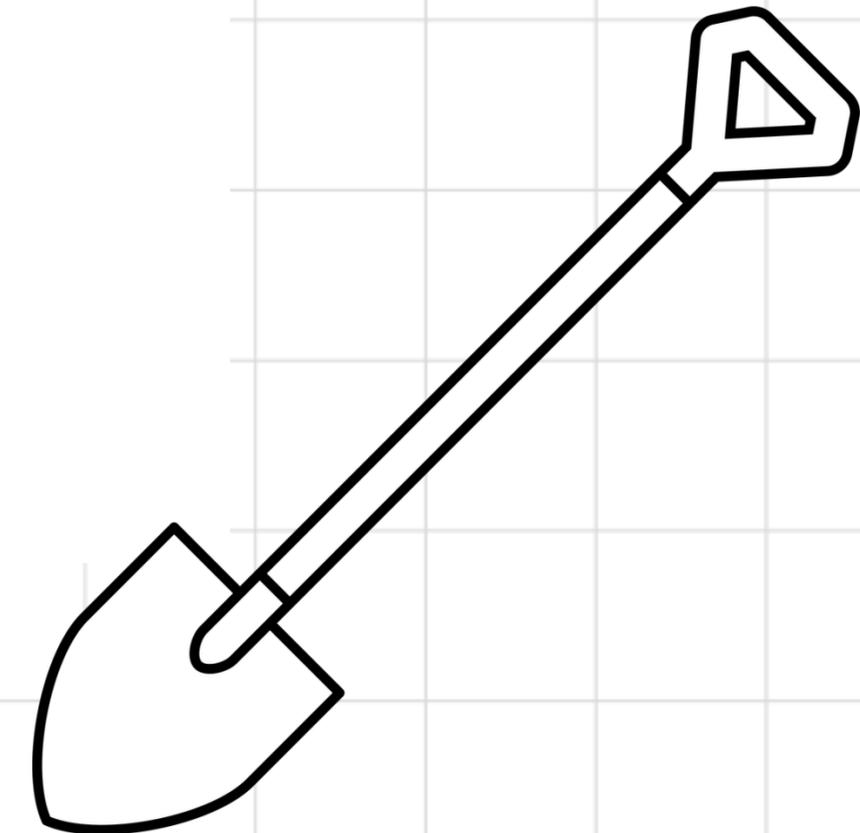
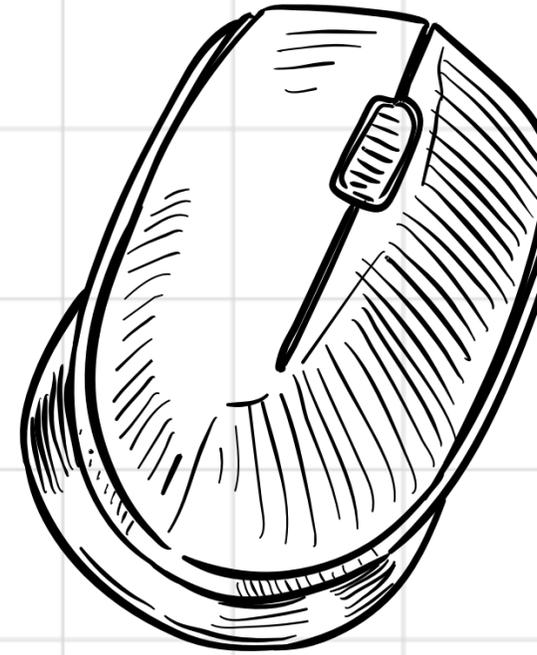
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Library of Things



Computer Mouse



Hanging



Storm Preparation

HOME & GARDEN
Library of Things



Adjustable Wrench 15"



On Shelf

HOME & GARDEN
Library of Things



Uprooter



Storage: On wall next to
Home & Garden Cart 2

HOME & GARDEN
Library of Things



Transfer Pump



On Shelf

18+

HOME & GARDEN
Library of Things



Ice pick



Storage: Home & Garden
Cart 2, Hanging

SPORTS & RECREATION
Library of Things



Solar Oven



On Shelf

HOME & GARDEN
Library of Things



Extension Cord



Storage : Home & Garden
Cart 3, Shelf 2

HOME & GARDEN
Library of Things



Portable Blower



Storage: Home & Garden
Cart 1, Shelf 1

HOME & GARDEN
Library of Things

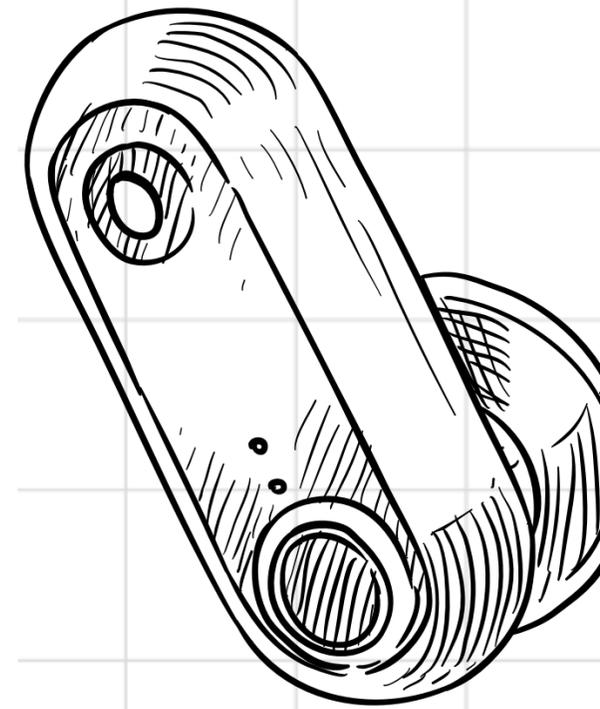


Bolt Cutters

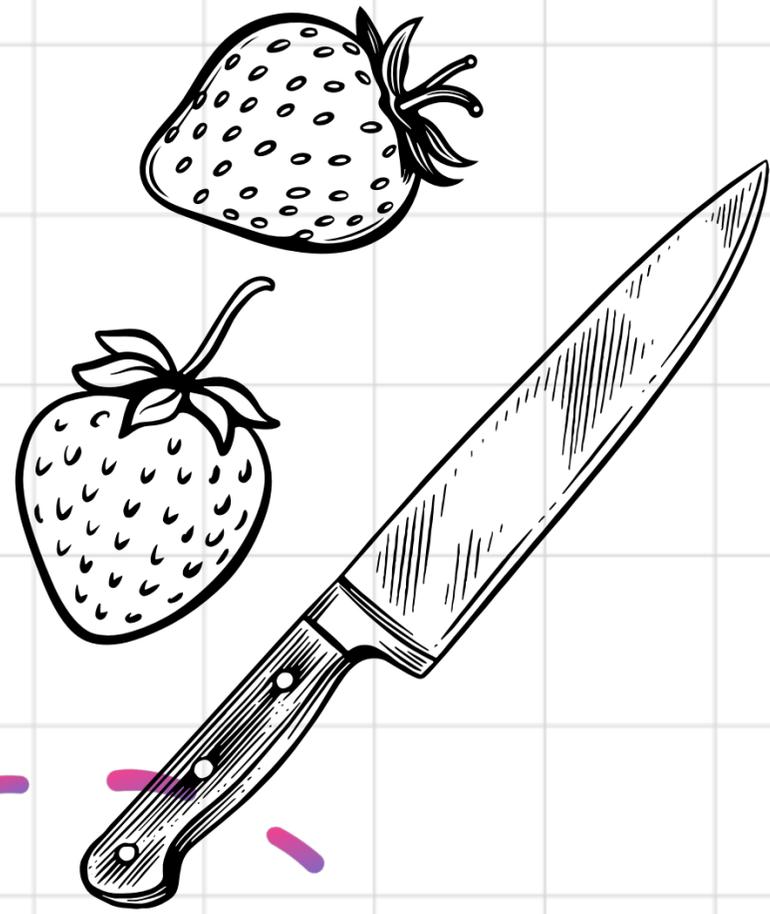


Storage: Home & Garden
Cart 1, Hanging

18+



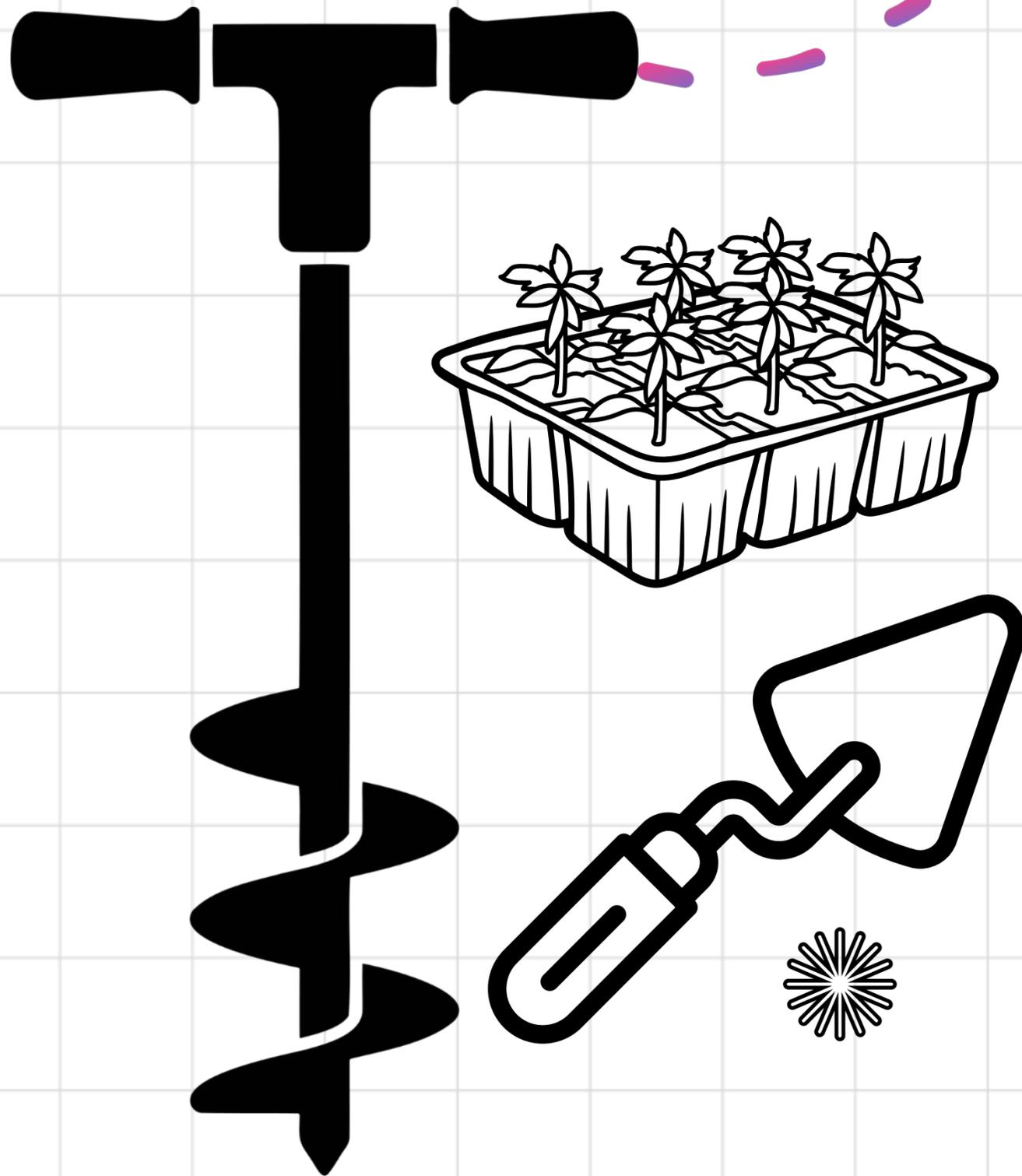
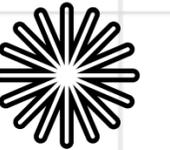
QUESTION FOR THE CHAT



What economic programs have you run or want to host using items that you could also lend?

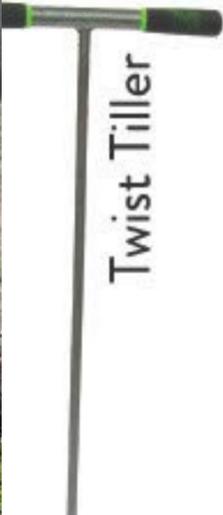
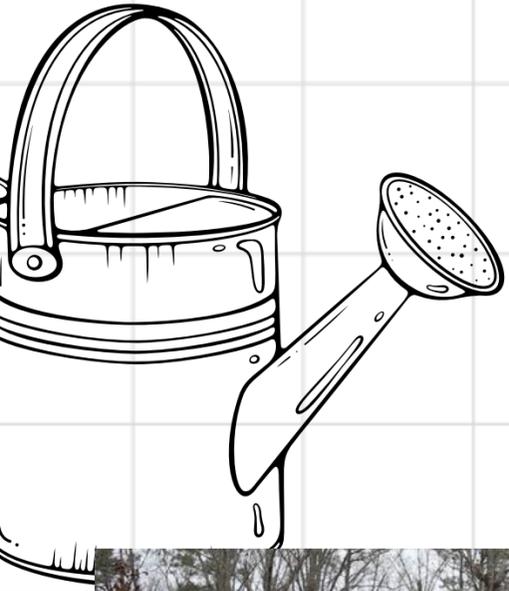


ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS



Libraries of Things can provide your community with the resources they need to tackle complex environmental issues and turn problems (falling fruit) in to solutions (jam and cider).

Partnering with Cooperative Extension - Garden Core



Twist Tiller



String Trimmer



Square Shovel



Rounded Point Shovel(2)



Garden Hoe (2)



Garden Hoe and Weeder



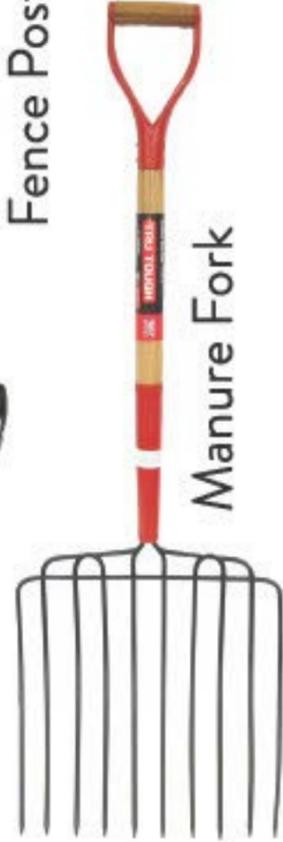
Trench Shovel



Snow Shovel



Fence Post Driver



Manure Fork



Leaf Blower



Grass Shears



Makita



12v and 18v Batteries and Chargers



Invasive Species Identification & Removal





Arkansas Wild Spaces

Sponsored by Central Arkansas Native Naturalists



CAL S

DEE BROWN
TOOL LIBRARY

Dee Brown Library • 4325 Baseline Road, Little Rock, AR 72209 • 501.568.7494

How to ID & Remove Invasive Plants

Supplies to Gather

- Cellphone QR reader
- cardboard/black bags
- compost/mulch
- Herbicide* (strict use, see step 0)

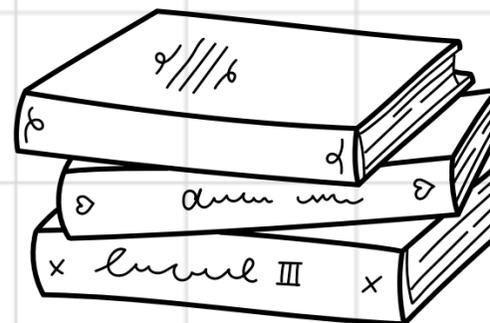
Supplies To Borrow

- PullerBear
- Weeding Shovel
- Root Slayer
- Pruning Saw
- Work Gloves

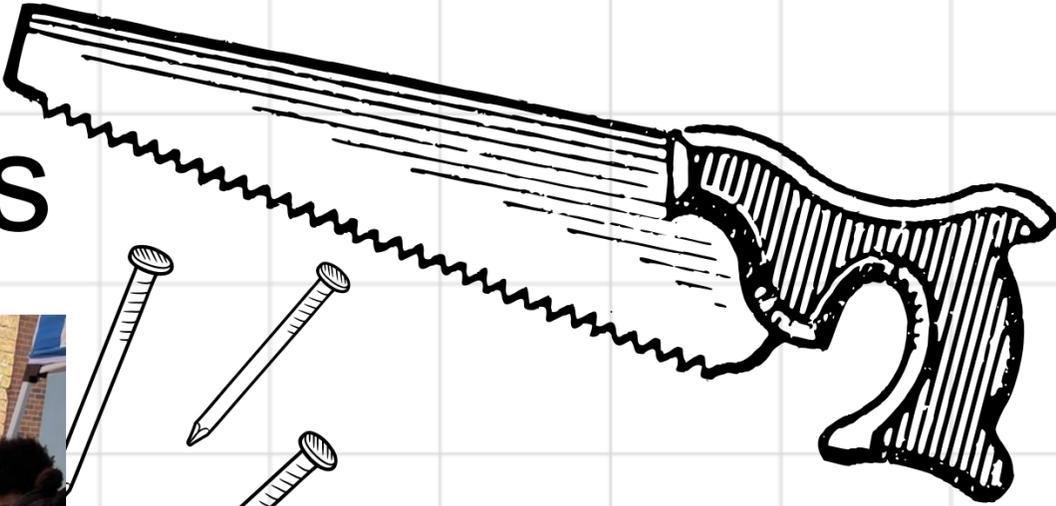
Many non-native species, brought to this country with good intentions have begun to take over our landscape and natural areas. Follow this guide to identify these plants and how to remove them with borrowed tools from the tool library. Central Arkansas Library patrons - 18 and older - can check out 5 tools at a time for use at home. These directions were adapted from Arkansas Wild Spaces.

Step 1- ID the Big Five. In central Arkansas, there are five species considered to be the most prevalent: 1) English ivy (*Hedera helix*); 2) Callery/Bradford pear (*Pyrus caleryana*); 3) Chinese privet (*Ligustrum sinense*); 4) Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*); and 5) nandina or sacred bamboo (*Nandina domestica*). Refer to the information below regarding each of these species. Be aware that their appearances can change throughout the year, Mistaken Identity? Invasive Plants and Their Native Look-Alikes.





Native Bird House Building with kids



Scrap Craft and Traditional Skills Classes

SCRAP CRAFTS IN HARPSWELL

HARPSWELL TOWN OFFICE - FALL 2019

Join as we learn creative ways to use up our scrap recyclables. This program is FREE and open to the public.

Limited space available. Sign up is required. Call the Reference Desk to reserve your seat: 207 725-5242 #2.

Learn more about our Scrap Craft series at www.curtislibrary.com/scrap-crafts



All classes are on Tuesdays from 1-2 PM. They will include a lecture and a small project.

SOAP - October 1st, 2019
Join us as we use a Curtis Craft Kit to create soap. We will also cover a wide variety of adaptations you can explore.

LEATHER—October 8th, 2019
Are you aware that you can make your own leather goods with a few simple tools? Come and learn how to manipulate leather with basic punches, ties and knives.

WAX—October 15th, 2019
Learn how to make candles. This lecture will explain different types of wax and techniques.

GOURD - October 22nd, 2019
Learn to grow and use traditional gourds. Then decorate one with one of the various techniques explained.



Harpowell
Recycled



Harpowell
Aging at Home



CURTIS
MEMORIAL
LIBRARY

A world of possibility

WWW.CURTISLIBRARY.COM

CRAFTS
Library of Things 

Beeswax Wrap Kit



Plastic Tote

CRAFT
Library of Things 

Rug Kit



Plastic Tote

CRAFT
Library of Things 

Soapmaking



Plastic Tote

18+

CRAFT
Library of Things 

Papermaking



Wooden Crate

CRAFT
Library of Things 

Loom Potholder Large



Storage: Craft Cart, Hanging

CRAFT
Library of Things 

Dye Kit



Storage: Craft Cart, Shelf 4

CRAFT
Library of Things 

Mosaic, Glasscutting & Bottle Reuse Kit



Plastic Tote

EDUCATION
Library of Things 

Alphabet Stamps - Metal



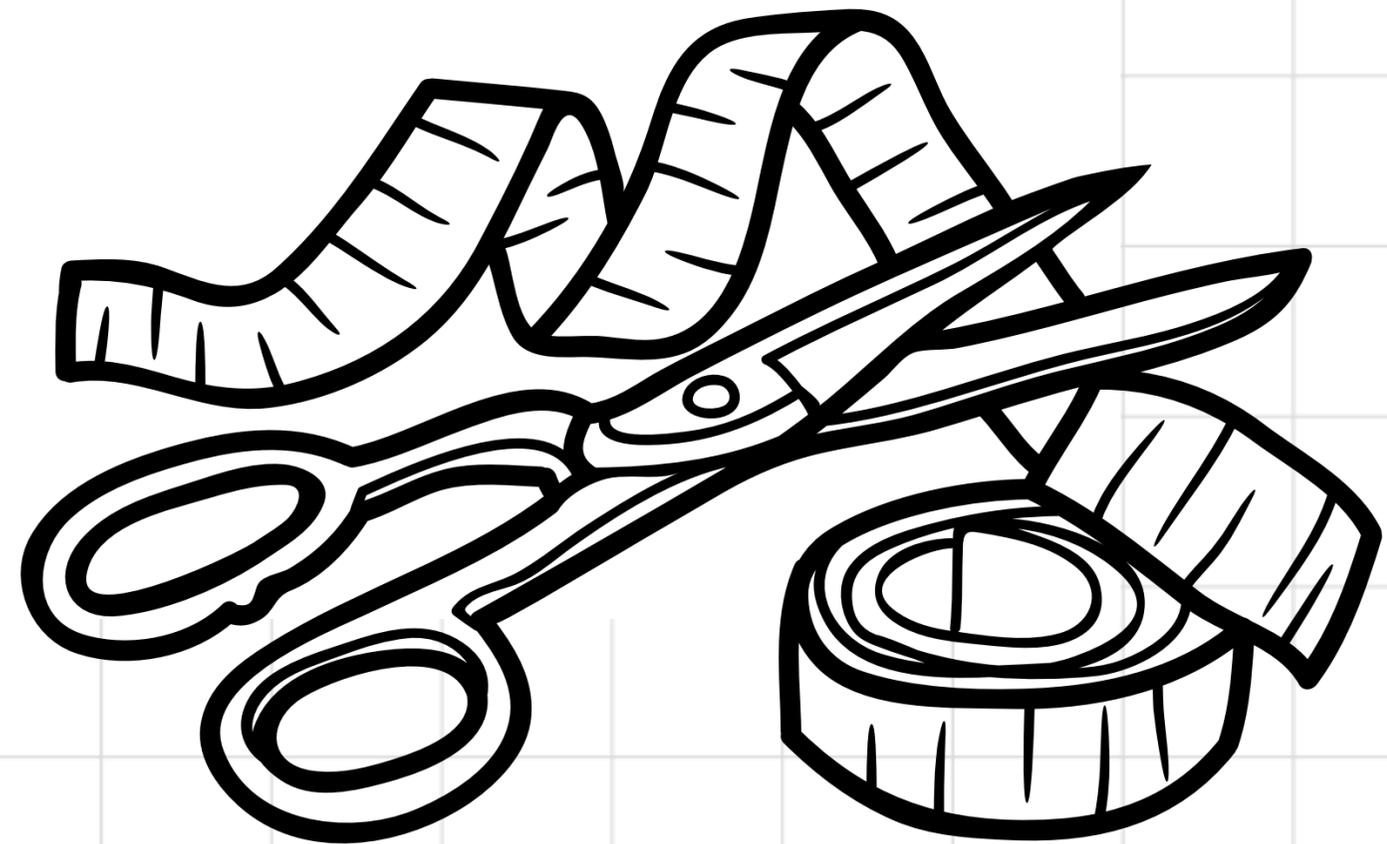
Hanging

CRAFT
Library of Things 

Bookbinding Kit



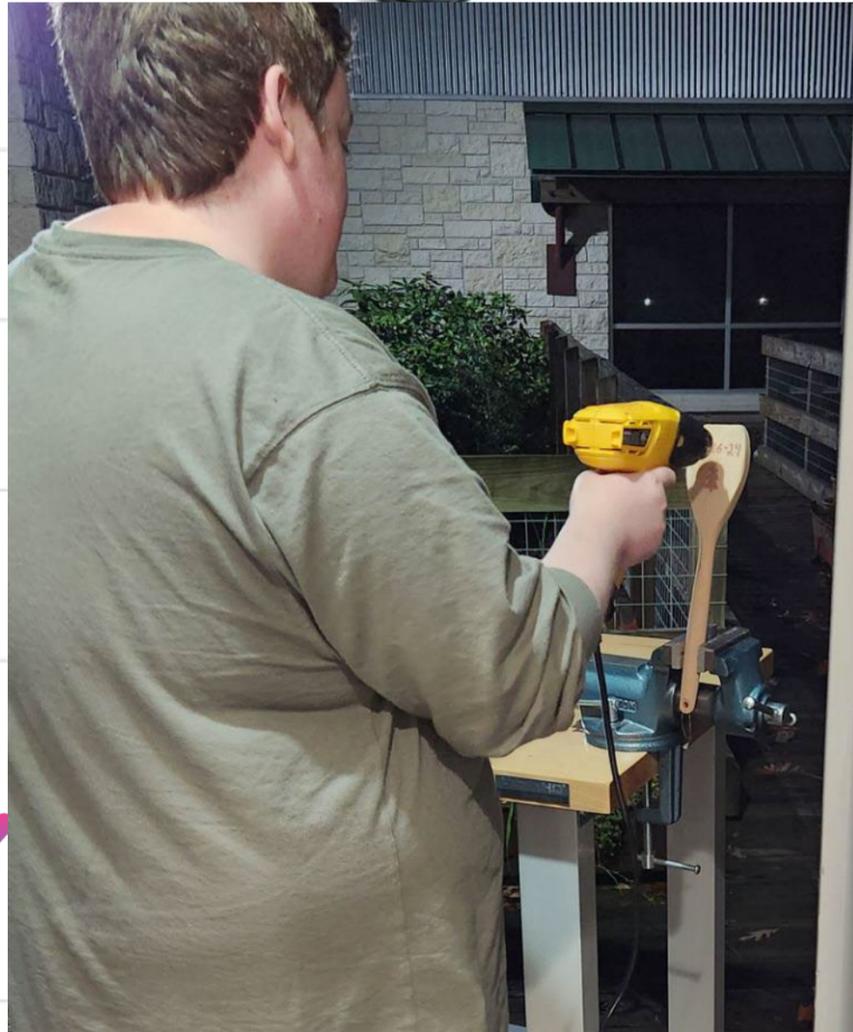
Plastic Tote



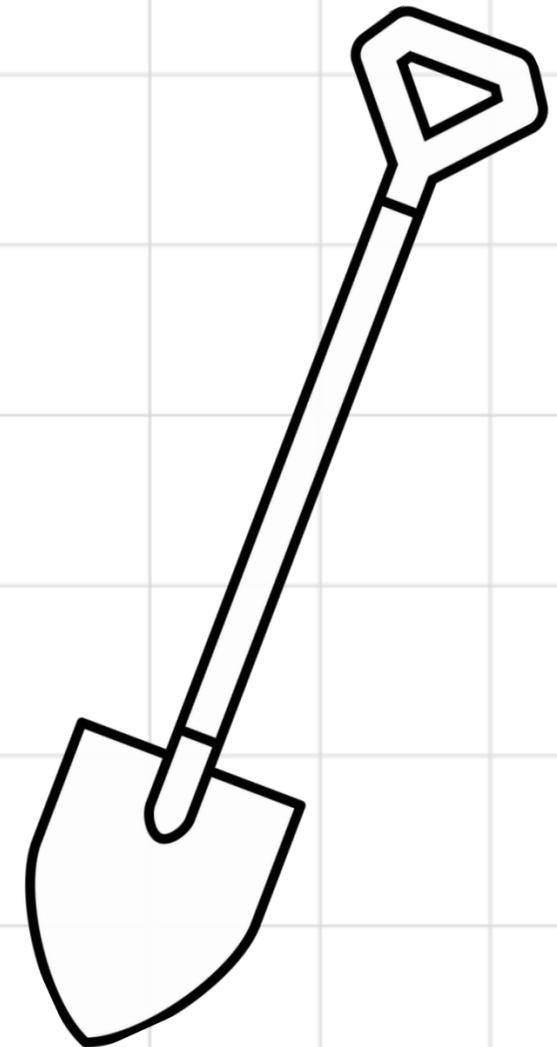
HEAT GUN CALS



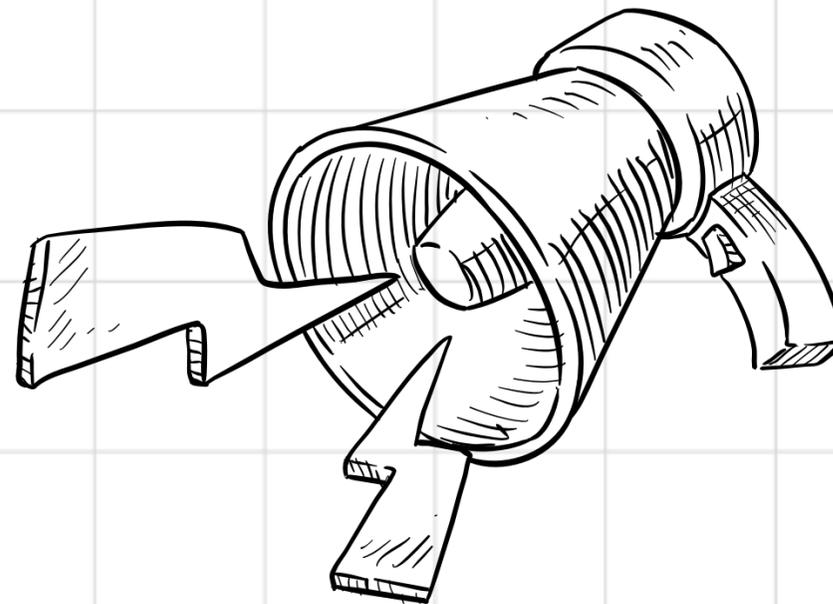
QUESTION FOR THE CHAT



What environmental programs have you run or want to host using items that you could also lend?



SHARE YOUR IMPACT



We need your ideas....

LOT Mutual Aid Group

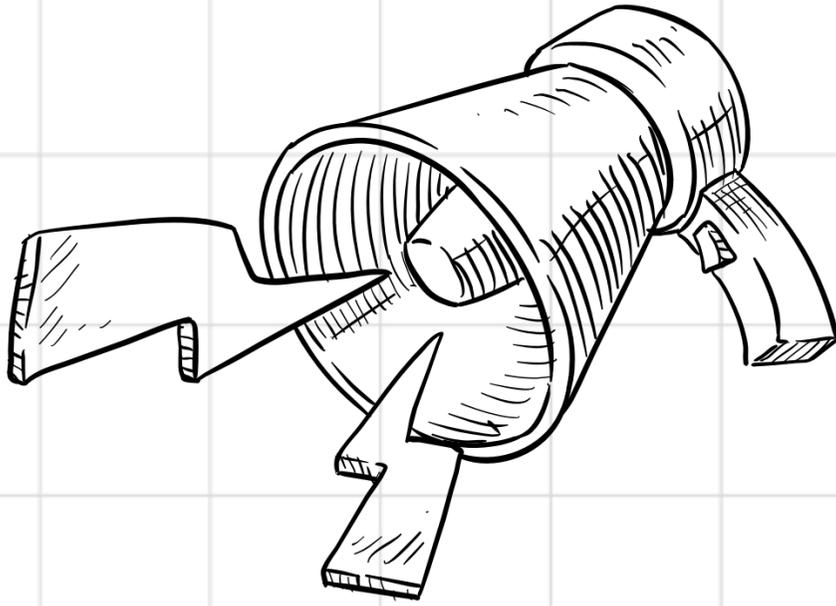


YOU CAN'T DO IT ALL



But together, our sharing ecosystem could provide....

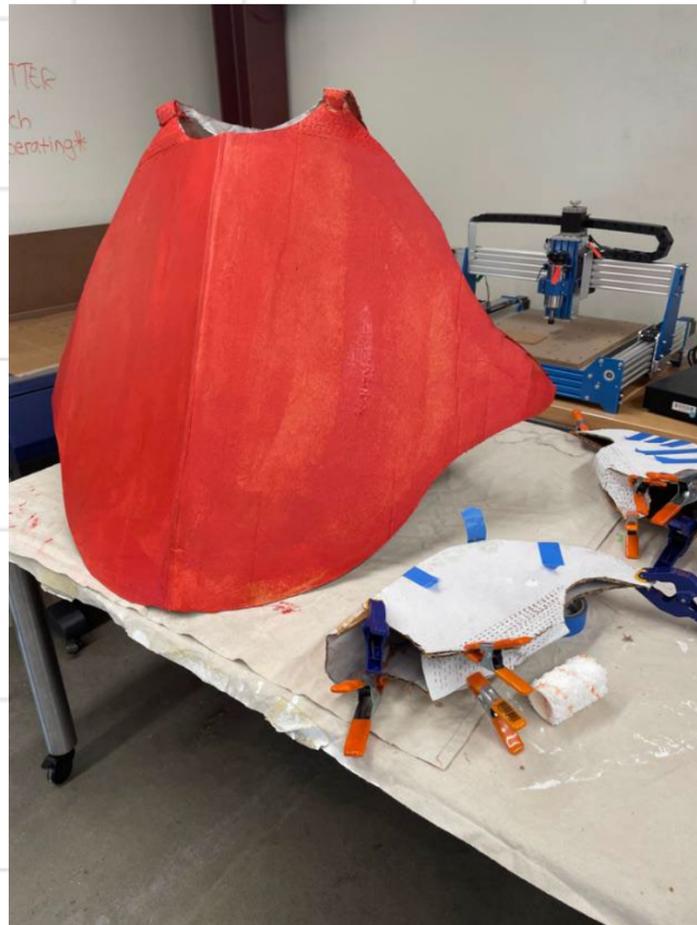
- Many things from your public library
- Electric snowblowers, leaf vacuums, wood -chippers and lawn mowers from your street share
- Specialty camera equipment from your co -working space share
- Large-scale dehydrators, caners and freeze dryers from your co -op's commercial kitchen space
- A toy share from your local religious organization
- Library passes to your local maker -space for the occasional use of a table saw
- and so much more



QUESTION FOR THE CHAT

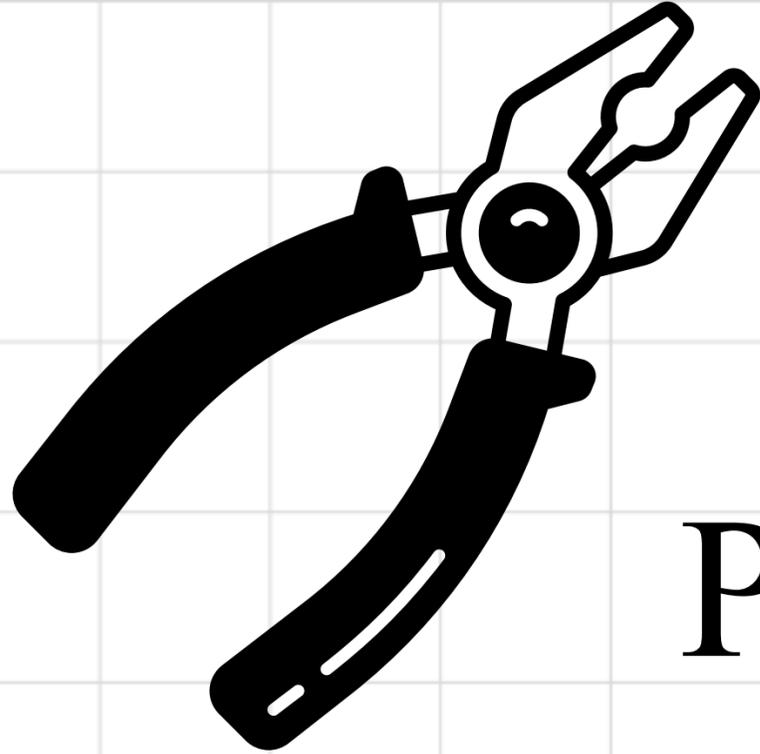


MULTICUTTER- CALS



What are some of the items or tools your patron's have requested or you hope to provide in the future?

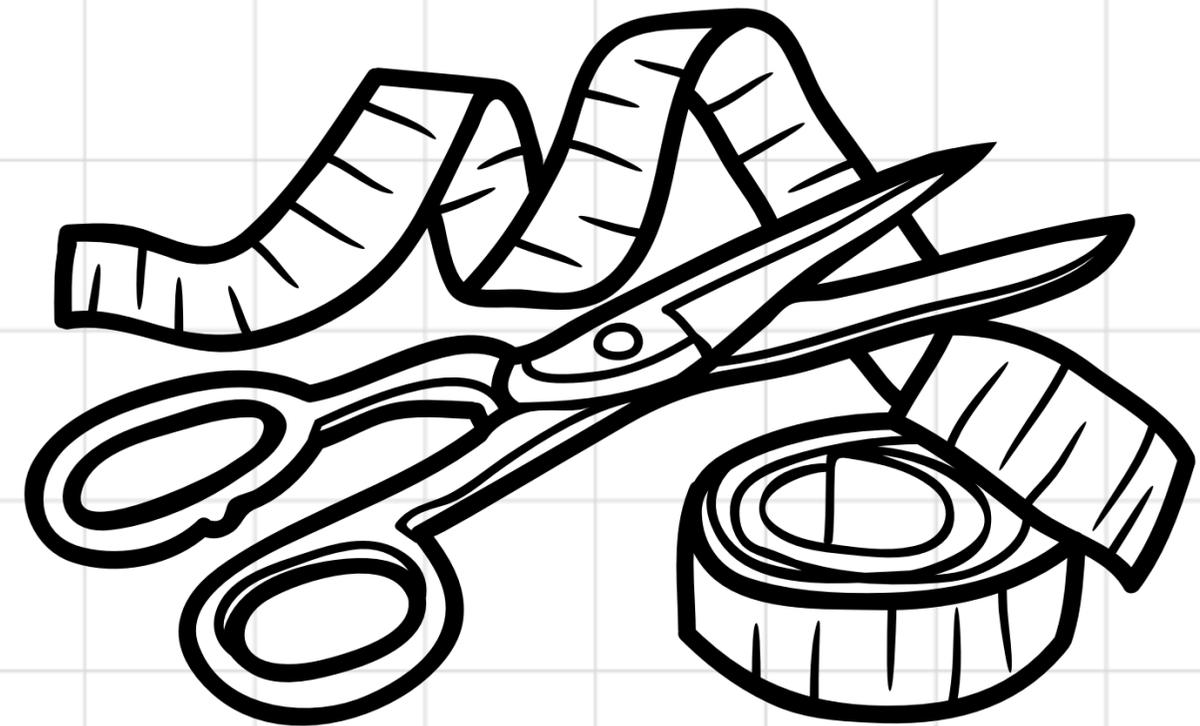




MORE PROGRAMS



We share a list of LOT programs and projects on a spreadsheet linked to from the LOT Mutual Aid Group.



THANK YOU



[A Community Listserv](#)

[Monthly Knowledge Shares](#)

[Join Here](#)

[Access our Recordings on YouTube](#)

[Other Great Resources for Sharing & Repairing](#)

A Community Listserv

We are a group of traditional public, academic or school libraries that lend things. Join our Google Group <https://groups.google.com/g/lotmutualaid> to ask questions, share resources, and find templates to adapt. This is where most of the sharing happens. With this group you can customize the emails as digests or hourly. You can even add yourself to our map.

Join us! We're improving our LOT service together.

