

State Library Bookmobiles Set to Return with Limited Service, Wi-Fi Access

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SANTA FE – Operated by the Rural Services Program of the New Mexico State Library, the state's three bookmobiles will be back on the road starting Monday, April 12, 2021.

Based in Cimarron, Tucumcari, and Los Lunas, the three bookmobiles provide library and information services to state residents in underserved and rural communities in New Mexico, with multiple monthly scheduled stops in each of those regions.

At each stop, bookmobile access will be limited to curbside service, and patrons will not be allowed to enter the bookmobiles. Tables will be set up so that patrons may pick up or drop off materials. Additionally, all three bookmobiles will be equipped with satellite internet, allowing patrons to connect through a wireless signal.

While using bookmobile services, patrons are required to follow COVID-safe practices, such as the wearing of face coverings and staying six feet apart.

The bookmobiles will be running on an abbreviated schedule in April, May, and June, and they will remain at each stop for 30 minutes. For more information, including a schedule of stops in each region, visit <http://www.nmstatelibrary.org/direct-and-rural-services>, or call Bookmobile East at 575-461-1206, Bookmobile Northeast at 575-376-2474, or Bookmobile West at 505-841-5250.

Bookmobile routes and stops are as follows:

- Bookmobile Northeast (Cimarron): Velarde, Peñasco, Questa, Tierra Amarilla, Tres Piedras, Carson, Wagon Mound, Mosquero, Roy, Miami, Des Moines, Vermejo Part Ranch, Ribera, Pecos, Rowe, Watrous, Rociada, Guadalupita, and Mora.

- Bookmobile East (Tucumcari): Elida, St. Vrain, Melrose, House, Logan, San Jon, Amistad, Nara Visa, Logan, Lakewood, Hagerman, Quay, McAlister, Grady, Carrizozo, and White Oaks.
- Bookmobile West (Los Lunas): Bluewater, Thoreau, Whispering Cedars, Wingate, El Morro, Pine Hill, Ramah, Fence Lake, Cubero, Highland Meadows, Datil, Pie Town, Quemado, Bosque, Veguita, Monticello, Winston, Cuchillo, Caballo, and Hillsboro.

The bookmobile program has been serving rural communities across New Mexico since 1956. Each bookmobile can carry up to 4,000 books. Between the three bookmobiles, there are more than 4,100 registered library patrons.

The bookmobiles are funded through capital outlay funds awarded by the New Mexico State Legislature, with ongoing operations funded via the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

About the New Mexico State Library

Established in 1929, the New Mexico State Library is a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, under the guidance of the New Mexico Library Commission. Programs and exhibits are generously supported by the New Mexico State Library Foundation through the generous support of donors. The New Mexico State Library provides services that support public and tribal libraries, delivers direct library services to rural populations, state agencies, the visually impaired and physically disabled, and students and citizens conducting research. The library supports public libraries by providing consulting services, offering training and continuing education opportunities, administering the librarian certification program, coordinating a statewide summer reading program and tribal library program, and administering state and federal grants to public libraries.

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