



Finally I'd like to talk about the Library Development division of the Montana State Library.



**Library Development (LDD)
Montana Library Network (MLN)**



- Focuses on libraries throughout state
– not the state library
- At the heart of excellent library
services across Montana
- Provides leadership and guidance to
all Montana libraries

Library Development is at the heart of excellent library services across Montana. This program focuses on issues and concerns of libraries *across the state* – not on the State Library. The Library Development Division provides leadership and guidance related to library programs, services and facilities. A professional staff plans, develops, and implements programs and administers funds for new and improved library services throughout the state.



Library Development
MLN Key activities and products

- Montana Library Network (MLN)
 - ✓ Cooperative access to Montana library catalogs
 - ✓ Montana Public Library Annual Report of Statistics
 - ✓ Montana Library Directory
- Statewide bibliographic services vendor (OCLC)
- Professional publications
- Statewide magazine database
- Montana Shared Catalog

The Montana Library Network was the inspiration of a representative group of librarians from all types of libraries throughout Montana. MLN is partnering with Montana libraries to ensure the delivery of quality, standards-based library materials and services to all Montanans. Montana is one of many states who have or who are building statewide library networks to better deliver library materials and services. MLN helps libraries work together so that patrons get what they need.

Montana Library Network provides access to Montana library catalogs as well as managing joint purchases of statewide services and products. For example, through MLN, Montana libraries have negotiated with a comprehensive bibliographic vendor to provide acquisition, cataloging and interlibrary loan services.

MLN also produces annual volumes of public library statistics and the Montana Library Directory. These publications are extremely important to the library community as they work together to provide library services.

 **State
Library**

Montana Library Network
Statewide full text magazine database

- 5,500 full text magazines
- 160 newspapers
- Automobile repair reference
- Education-related reference database
- Available to any user of any subscribing Montana library



Montana libraries, through the Montana Library Network, have negotiated a statewide purchase of approximately 5,500 full text magazines, 160 newspapers, a car repair reference, and an education-related reference database. These databases are available to any user of any subscribing Montana library.



Library Development Montana Shared Catalog

- Currently serves 375,000 Montanans, 36 Montana communities, 56 libraries, and 306 librarians
- 650,000+ titles in combined catalog
- Growing as staff and financial resources allow
- Approachable and easy to learn interface

The Montana Library Network has helped libraries share information in ways no one could have imagined a few years ago. If you are in Kalispell and want a book titled "Small Business Start-up Kit" it doesn't matter if the Kalispell Public Library doesn't have it because the Missoula Public Library does. You can have it in your hands the next day thanks to the Montana Shared Catalog.

Thirty years ago Montana libraries mailed a "ticker tape" list of books needed by their patrons to all other participating libraries in the state, hoping that one library might have the needed book and share it. The process could take up to six weeks. Today, we have the Montana Shared Catalog – what used to be found in the card catalog at each of these local libraries is now joined with catalogs from all other participating libraries, on-line for you to search, anytime, from anywhere over the internet. Find the book you want and obtain it, even if it is not in your local library's collection.