

Kansas City, Kansas Public Library in the process of implementing new RFID technology

Kansas City, Kansas Public library is in the process of implementing RFID technology at all library locations. The Mobile Library, Turner Community Library, and Mr. & Mrs. F.L. Schlagle Library have all been converted. Main Library and South Library will be converted later this month. Implementing RFID technology will require library branches to be closed for up to one week to tag all items with RFID tags and install the new RFID machines. The Main library will be closed May 19 – 26 and South Branch Library will be closed May 27-31.

This new technology will improve many aspects of the library's service. It will create a new patron experience that allows for faster and easier checkout of items. It will also allow staff to more easily inventory and manage the collection so they are better able to meet the information and entertainment needs of the community. Since staff will no longer have to spend a large portion of time managing the checkout of items, it will allow them more time to offer their skills and knowledge towards beneficial programs and services both in the library branches and in the community.

RFID stands for Radio Frequency Identification. It is a technology that uses radio waves to automatically identify certain items. RFID is frequently used for a variety of purposes including store inventory, employee ID badges, pet ID tags, and much more. In libraries, the RFID tag replaces the current barcode system. Each library item receives a unique tag that allows staff to find, organize, and track the item. It will also allow patrons to check out items on their own, using RFID machines that can easily read multiple items at one time.

More information regarding the use of RFID can be found on the library's website at kckpl.org.

Kansas City, Kansas Public Library was formed in 1895. In 1899, it came under the authority of the Kansas City, Kansas Public School District Board of Education and remains there today. It serves a population of 159,129. The mission of Kansas City, Kansas Public Library is to connect members of a dynamic community with information, tools, resources, and welcoming spaces to enrich lives in Wyandotte County. The library can be found online at kckpl.org