Book Sale Information

The Friends Book Sale is set up in the back section of the Athens Library. This replaces the decades-old monthly book sale model, which needed to be changed during the Covid-19 pandemic. The ongoing Book Sale is open during the library’s open hours, with payment using the honor system.

The management of the Book Sale is the major activity of the Friends and is 100% volunteer maintained with the assistance of librarians who accept book donations during the week. Volunteers sort and display donations weekly, keeping the sale shelves stocked.

Books sold are a combination of those donated by community members and books ACPL has needed to pull from their collection. Books the Friends cannot sell are passed along to the Ohio University Recycling Center, which distributes them to other charities or properly recycles them.

Book Donations

In addition to depending on volunteer workers, the Book Sale depends on a continuous flow of books donated by community members.

All donations can be dropped off at the front desk of the Athens library. As needed, you can borrow a cart inside the library or ask for help bringing your donations inside. If you have more than 4 boxes or bags to donate, please contact library staff or email the Friends at FAPL45701@gmail.com so that a Friends representative can call to arrange the donation. Please do not leave book donations in the lobby or outside the library.

The Friends are looking for hardback or paperback books in good condition and likely to appeal to an audience in the broader Athens area. If you’d be willing to have the book you want to donate in your home and hold it in your hands to read it, it’s probably okay to donate.

The Book Sale can sell fiction (general, mystery/suspense, romance, science fiction/fantasy, romance, etc.); non-fiction (philosophy, religion, self-help, DIY, gardening, birding, travel, etc.); and especially children’s books. Donated CDs and DVDs in perfect condition are also accepted.

Please do not donate:
× Books that are water damaged, moldy-smelling, or have signs of any bugs or bug damage.
× Books with stains or that are dirty, deformed or torn.
× Textbooks, specialized technical books, or technology books more than 2 years old.
× Vinyl records, cassettes, and VHS tapes.

Please take books the Friends cannot accept to the OU Recycling Center at the Ridges for donation to charity or proper recycling. Visit https://www.ohio.edu/recycle/about/contact for directions, hours, and other information.