



Baltimore County Public Library

# News Release

Contact: Josh McCready, Marketing & Development

320 York Road | Towson, MD 21204-5179 | 410-887-6196 | (f) 410-887-6103 | [www.bcpl.info](http://www.bcpl.info)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **BCPL Now Offers Passport Services at Arbutus Branch**



The Arbutus Branch of the Baltimore County Public Library now offers passport services. Said BCPL Director Paula Miller, "In our continuing efforts to respond to our customer needs, and to develop successful partnerships in the community, we are very happy to announce that Baltimore County Public Library's Arbutus Branch, having received the United States' Department of State Certificate of Designation, is now an official passport acceptance facility."

The services are available Monday through Thursday, 3 p.m.-7 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. No appointments are necessary. Walk-ins are welcome and are processed on a first come, first served basis. If there's a wait, you can browse the library and receive a text when your turn comes.

The branch is processing new applications only, no renewals. Fees vary depending on the product you need. There are separate fees for the Department of State and BCPL processing fees. Fees are the same as all other processing facilities. Department of State passport fees are payable by check or money order only. A separate check, payable to the Department of State, is required for each application. BCPL processing fees are payable by cash, check, money order or credit card. A fee chart is provided on the BCPL website (see below).

After the passport is processed, the passport will be mailed to the customer at home. The average wait time for a new passport is four to six weeks depending on the time of year, but expedited services are available for an additional fee.

The Arbutus Branch was selected to pilot the service due to its location. "Arbutus is our very first branch to provide this service," said Director Miller, "and we hope that the service can be expanded to other branches in the future as we evaluate its success."

For more information, visit [www.bcpl.info/services-policies/library-services#passports](http://www.bcpl.info/services-policies/library-services#passports) or watch an [informational video](https://youtu.be/2R1fj-5VXT8) (youtu.be/2R1fj-5VXT8). Additional questions can be directed to the Arbutus Branch's service desk or call 410-887-1451.

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The Baltimore County Public Library (BCPL) has been serving the citizens of Baltimore County since 1948. With 19 branches throughout Baltimore County, BCPL offers an environment for all to be empowered, inspired and informed to succeed. In addition to loaning books, library card holders may borrow DVDs, music, e-books and gain access to our research databases. Our 19 branches provide computer and Internet access, job search assistance and offer a multitude of daily learning programs for adults and children. For more information about our branches and services, please visit [www.bcpl.info](http://www.bcpl.info).