



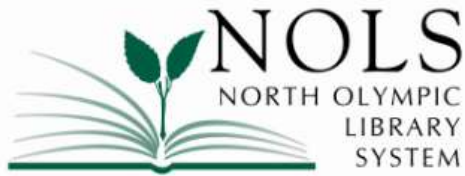
Information about our public library

Governance. The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) is a junior taxing district that provides public library service to all of Clallam County. It is governed by a 5-member Board of Trustees appointed by County Commissioners. NOLS consists of the Main Library in Port Angeles, branches in Clallam Bay, Forks and Sequim, an Outreach program that delivers books to people who are homebound, and a variety of web-based services.

Budget. The Library's operating budget for 2009 is \$3,040,813. Most of the Library's income (88%) comes from property taxes. About 7% comes from timber and forest products, and 7% comes from other revenue (fines, fees, interest, etc). The tax levy rate for the library in 2009 is 31c per \$1,000, or about \$62.50 per year for a \$200,000 house.

Services and programs. The Library has collections of over 267,000 books, DVDs, CDs, magazines, newspapers, online databases, downloadable audio books for all ages and more. Trained staff are available at all locations to assist people in finding information and good books to read. All NOLS libraries present regular cultural and literary programs such as author visits and lectures. Children's programs and activities are an important feature at all libraries: staff can help with schoolwork, help kids build reading skills and inspire a love of books and reading. The Library offers programs and services especially for teens. And there are special resources such as local history materials, community and civic information and more.

Numbers. County-wide, the Library staff consists of 54 people (45.8 FTEs). In 2008 volunteers contributed 2,278 hours of service. In 2008 806,701 books and other materials were borrowed from the library; 437,509 customer visits were recorded; 22,169 reference questions were answered; and 229 library-sponsored programs were attended by 8,059 people. A total of 40,440 people in Clallam County have library cards (58% of population).



NOLS 2012: Excellent libraries for all of Clallam County

The Library Board is developing a plan to maintain existing services, to respond to community demands for more services, and to address infrastructure needs throughout the library system. This draft plan calls for an increase of the Library's levy from 31c per \$1,000 in assessed property valuation to 50c per \$1,000. Raising NOLS' levy rate requires passage by a majority of Clallam County voters. The plan is called NOLS 2012 because it would be implemented in 2012. The Board is targeting November 2, 2010 for the election.

Property tax facts: The NOLS 2012 plan would increase property taxes as follows:

\$100,000 house: Current: \$31.18/year (\$2.60/month)	Proposed: \$50/year (\$4.17/month)
\$200,000 house: Current: \$62.36/year (\$5.20/month)	Proposed: \$100/year (\$8.30/month)
\$300,000 house: Current: \$93.54/year (\$7.80/month)	Proposed: \$150/year (\$12.51/month)

Highlights of the NOLS 2012 plan.

- ✓ Longer and more consistent operating hours at Clallam Bay, Forks, Port Angeles and Sequim Libraries;
- ✓ More new books and other materials at all four libraries;
- ✓ More programs and activities for children and teens;
- ✓ More services for seniors;
- ✓ A more robust county-wide volunteer program;
- ✓ More community partnerships;
- ✓ More computers and technology;
- ✓ 10-year capital improvement program to address the deterioration of buildings, vehicles and equipment throughout the system.

Property tax facts: The last time the North Olympic Library System asked the voters for a levy rate increase was 1978.

Share your opinion. Let the Library Board of Trustees know what you think. Before they adopt the NOLS 2012 plan next year, Board members want to hear from the people of Clallam County. Let us know what you think of the proposed plan. How could it be better?

- ✓ Call Library Director Paula Barnes at 360-417-8525
- ✓ Email the Library Board at Board@nols.org
- ✓ Provide public comments at a Library Board meeting
- ✓ Submit a customer suggestion form at any library or use the online customer suggestion form at www.nols.org
- ✓ Attend a community meeting at your local library