



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **New Self-Check System in Place at all Summit County Library Branches**

*Coalville* – As Summit County seeks to streamline county processes for ease of use, the library has converted to a new self-check system utilizing Radio-frequency identification (RFID) tags across all county branches. RFID is the wireless use of electromagnetic fields to automatically identify and track tags attached to objects, with the tags containing electronically stored information.

Self-check gives citizens the freedom to pick up their own holds and have added privacy when checking items out. Furthermore, patrons will be able to check out multiple items at a time instead of being required to scan the barcode on each book. The RFID tag inside each item will be read when you place items on the antenna pad. You can typically place about 5 items on the pad at a time to be read. This will result in speedier checkout times and less time waiting in line.

The biggest change for patrons will be to always bring their library card to the library or have their library card number and PIN readily available. New cards with duplicate keychain cards are available for those wishing to trade in old cards, or there is a new children's card, designed by author/illustrator Robert Neubecker also available.



Another change for parents is the necessity to have “resident child” account status for children under the age of 18 if they have their own library cards. This will prohibit young readers from checking out R-rated films located in the libraries. Library staff members are available to double check this status for patrons with children.



The new RFID technology will allow staff to dedicate more time to patrons and work on specialized programming. Dan Compton, Summit County’s Library Director said, “This self-check technology will allow our staff members to help you find what you’re looking for in the stacks and assist with technology more because they won’t be required to be stationed behind the desk all the time.” He added, “It will also bring library patrons more privacy while making our collection more secure and manageable.”

In 2000, several libraries around the world announced their intent to integrate RFID technology into their library systems, pioneering its use for contemporary library functions. RFID uses the low-end of the electromagnetic spectrum. The waves coming from readers are no more dangerous than the waves coming to your car radio.

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