

OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Decatur Public Library's outreach program provides service in three ways. One, is through home service for those patrons who have an illness or disability that prevents them from using the library. Two, the library provides direct bookmobile service to nursing homes, high rises, and child care facilities that request the service. Three, deposit collections are placed in some nursing homes, juvenile facilities, and other sites requesting the service. Each area of outreach service, to a certain extent, is unique. For instance, RSVP volunteers handle the library's deliveries for home service. Library assistants pull the materials together and the Extension clerk checks them out, but from that point on, volunteers take over. For bookmobile stops, the small bookmobile goes to a site and materials are off loaded at the site. Residents also come on board at some stops. It depends on the type of service that a particular site needs. The Extension Librarian selects materials for the on site collections. Our part time driver has been delivering many of these as he runs his morning route. This is a time saver for the department. Delivery dates have been changed to reflect our four week loan period. Home service volunteers now have one day each month, such as the 4th Friday, that they know will be a home service delivery day. The set schedule is to help the volunteers work their own activities around this volunteer activity.