



To the Community of the Bear Mountain Library & Activity Center,

As you are aware, the Library's 18,000 gallon water tank stopped working at the end of May. This was not a planned outage.

As I am sure you agree, the safety and security of everyone who uses the library is our top concern.

Without a properly functioning source of water, there is no water for the people using the library (restrooms, kitchen, drinking water, etc.) and there is no water for the fire suppression system. The CA State Fire Marshall ordered the Library remain closed until a new tank is installed and fully functional. We have been told this will take another 8-10 weeks for manufacture and installation. Please understand, this is not like replacing your home water heater tank. This is a specially built tank that must meet many different levels of certification before it can be used.

Could we have planned to replace it before it stopped functioning? Yes, we were in the planning stages for replacement in fact. We had the tank assessed last year and were told it would last another 3-5 years. The replacement was in this next year's budget to start the planning, however now we are in full emergency mode, replacing the tank as soon as we can.

While the Library is closed, we have taken steps to provide all Squaw Valley residents with library service as follows:

1. The **Bookmobile** is onsite at the Mountain Valley Community Church parking lot (across the street from the Library) every Wednesday from 10-3. Customers can call [any library branch](#) to have their current holds transferred to the Bookmobile. Holds originally routed to Bear Mountain are currently being re-routed to Reedley Branch Library, but that can be changed by calling any branch.
2. **Summer Reading Challenge** events for children on Tuesdays at 1pm have been moved to the church across the street as well. More information about Summer Reading can be found at <http://www.fresnolibrarysrp.org/>.
3. For other Library services, there are four other branches near Squaw Valley. We have:
 - a. **Piedra** Branch on 25385 Trimmer Springs Road, Sanger, CA.
 - b. **Orange Cove** Branch at 815 Park Blvd, Orange Cove, CA 93646.
 - c. **Reedley** Branch at 1027 E Street, Reedley, CA 93654.
 - d. **Sanger** Branch at 1812 Seventh Street.

For other locations, programs and services, please log in to the Library website at www.fresnolibrary.org You can also call us at (559) 600-7323 (READ).

Other projects:

1. **Gardens, trees, etc.:** We have secured a water truck to water the grounds once a week until the Library re-opens.
2. **Education Pavilion:** Work is progressing. Pieces of the structure are being manufactured offsite to minimize fire risk.



County of Fresno

Fresno County Public Library
Laurel C. Prysiazny, County Librarian

3. **Roof:** The roof replacement is now complete. Having this done while the facility was closed due to the water tank meant not having to close a second time.

The library closure causes a great inconvenience to all, and we realize this and apologize for the inconvenience. If you wish to discuss this further, please feel free to call me directly.

Sincerely,

Laurel C. Prysiazny

County Librarian

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