

# PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

## OVERVIEW



Marion County Public Library System is a department of the Marion County Board of County Commissioners that is known as the starting point for access to a wealth of information with personal service delivered by knowledgeable staff.

The Marion County Public Library System, through its eight locations, serves as a center of community engagement where citizens are informed, inspired and empowered.

The Marion County Public Library System aims to connect citizens with information, ideas and experiences to strengthen and enrich the Marion County community and quality of life by providing:

- Applied technology to enhance, expand and extend services.
- Collections of value and interest which are relevant to citizens.
- Facilities that are inviting and safe with locations and hours convenient to customers.
- Reference, readers advisory and borrower services accessible to all.

A library card from the Marion County Public Library System enables the borrowing of circulating materials from the library's collections, use of public computers, access to a cardholder's library account online, and the use of library-provided electronic resources outside of library facilities.

- Books, magazines and audio resources.
- Digital media and databases.
- Eight library facilities.
- Internet access and public computers.
- Programs, classes and events.
- Reading recommendations.
- Reference assistance.

## KEY SERVICES



## FUNDING



### Funding sources include:

- General revenue (property tax, state shared sales tax and other state shared revenues).
- Fines/fees (overdue/damage fines, printing/copying fees).
- Private donations and state grants (memorials and fund matching).

## MARION COUNTY

- 1,652 square miles.
- Population: 345,749.
- Florida's fifth largest county; larger than the state of Rhode Island.
- Known as the "Horse Capital of the World," the county's rich equine and agricultural heritage is internationally renowned.
- Comprises thousands of acres of national forest, 32,000 acres of lakes, 92 miles of rivers and more than 40 springs, including Silver Springs, which is recognized as one of the largest artesian spring formations in the world.

## By the Numbers\*

**1,033,950** Items in circulation

**215,520** Library card holders

**16,200** Hours by volunteers

\*FY 15-16



Updated 11-16