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First Boulder tool library set to open on Saturday

New lending program operating at the ReSource Yard

By Laura Snider Camera Staff Writer
Posted: 11/30/2010 06:34:20 PM MST



Chris Enright picks out a drill Tuesday at the ReSource Tool Library to hang the sign for the new library, at the ReSource Yard in Boulder. (Cameron Redwine)

If you go

What: ReSource Tool Library grand opening, which will include live music, food, drinks and a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

When: 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday

Where: The ReSource Yard, 6400 Arapahoe Road, Boulder

More info:
www.ReSourceToolLibrary.org

How to use the tool library

The library will be open, beginning Saturday, during the same hours as the ReSource Yard: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays.

Memberships to the tool library cost \$25 for individuals and \$100 for nonprofits annually. Tools will be available to members only for a per-day handling fee that will average around \$1.50 per tool, and tools can be kept for up to seven days.

Donate tools

The library is still accepting donations of tools in good working

Boulder County's first tool library will open its doors Saturday at the ReSource Yard, providing an opportunity for locals to check out everything from a rake to a circular saw to an electric hedge trimmer.

The library -- a project of Boulder's Center for ReSource Conservation -- will be open during the same hours as the ReSource Yard, which sells reclaimed building materials. That means the doors will be open seven days a week for a total of 53 hours.

"That will make it by far the most accessible tool library in the country," said Adam Jackaway, the tool library's program manager. "It's a wonderful synergy. It's a bit of a one-stop shop for recycled materials and tools to borrow."

Jackaway said the idea is to encourage people in the community to share tools, especially those that are needed infrequently, and reduce overall resource use. And to do that, he and colleague Camron Adibi are striving to make access to the library affordable. Individual memberships will run \$25 a year, and the per-day cost to members borrowing a tool is in the neighborhood of \$1.50 -- though fees range from 25 cents for a screwdriver to \$4.75 for a router and router table.

The ReSource Tool Library will join about two dozen existing tool-sharing programs across the country, which range in size and scale.

Jackaway came up with the idea of starting a tool-sharing program in Boulder about a year and a half ago, inspired by the tool library in Berkeley, Calif., which is part of that city's public library system. He took his idea to the Center for ReSource Conservation, which already works in the community to encourage reuse and reduce waste at its ReSource Yard.

"I think it complements what we're doing over there now, which is reselling materials that would normally end up in the landfill," said Keith Frausto, the center's executive director. "It will give people an opportunity to do more do-it-yourself projects."

The ReSource Tool Library already has about 2,000 tools, most of which were donated by community members but some of which are being provided by one of the library's sponsors, McGuckin Hardware.

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order, and anyone who donates a tool can check that tool out from the library free for life. The library does not accept cordless power tools or gas-powered tools. Donations can be dropped off at the ReSource Yard during normal hours.

McGuckin's marketing manager, Nancy Barker, said the partnership makes sense for a couple of reasons.

"We feel that customers who borrow tools from them will still likely need something from us," he said.

And Barker also said that donating tools to the new library allows McGuckin to help support a variety of community groups that have, in the past, asked the store for individual tool donations.

"We think it would be a way for us to help the tool library help nonprofit groups," he said. "Our one donation could help many groups."

Contact Camera Staff Writer Laura Snider at 303-473-1327 [begin_of_the_skype_highlighting 303-473-1327 end_of_the_skype_highlighting](#) or sniderl@dailycamera.com.

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 [thayne_smika](#) · 12 hours ago

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Anybody been out to the new place on Arapahoe yet? The place looks like a dump. Literally. I donated some hardwood trim and was surprised to see the condition of the donations.

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 [BuffChick13](#) · 12 hours ago


+1

The tool library sounds like a nice idea.

I've been to the location on Arapahoe a couple of times. I think it is better organized then the previous location, but I did notice that some of the donations did not look good.

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 [IXLR82](#) · 27 minutes ago

+2

A tool library? So I can sign out heinlein?

<g>

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