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Burleson Public Library is ready to waive your fines again! Customers who owe library fines can get as much as \$50 forgiven April 4 – April 16 through the library's Paws Your Fines program. The catch is that instead of digging into their pockets, customers can bring in donations that the library will turn over to the Burleson Animal Shelter.

Customers can bring leashes, beds, unopened and unexpired pet food or treats, and other related items to receive a waiver of \$1-\$20 per item. The library has created a donation chart to guide library cardholders in clearing up their existing fines. For example, each can of pet food brought in will result in a waiver of up to \$1 in library fines, while large bags (30 pounds+) of dry food are worth \$25 of library fines. A maximum of \$50 can be waived.

Items needed by the Burleson Animal Shelter include:

- Bagged or canned dog or cat food (Please no Ol' Roy or Old Yeller brand)
- Dog treats (any brand)
- Peanut butter (regular)
- Beds
- Old towels or blankets
- Collars and leashes
- Toys

"Since several members of our staff have adopted animals from the Burleson Animal Shelter, we have been looking for ways to partner with them," Heather Huse, library business manager, said. "This is an excellent way for library customers to reduce or eliminate fines while helping our four-legged community members."

The Burleson Animal Shelter partners with Meals-On-Wheels for the Ani-Meals program. That program helps home bound elderly clients who share their own meals with their pets because they can't afford to buy pet food. The shelter coordinates and stores the food donated to Ani-Meals. The shelter also gives supplies to pet rescues that work with them to get pets adopted. And, the Burleson Animal Shelter staff helps those who are struggling to make ends meet

but don't want to give up their four-legged family members. Items donated to the library's Paws Your Fines drive will help all three causes.

Fees for lost or damaged items and fines for items belonging to other libraries will not be waived. Only existing overdue fines on Burluson items are eligible for the program. No credits will be placed on accounts for future fines. Paws Your Fines has the potential to reduce some of these charges and bring library patrons' accounts back into good standing.

Everyone is welcome to bring in donations even if they do not have fines on their library account. Donated items may be dropped off at the Burluson Public Library between April 4 – April 16. The library's hours are Monday-Wednesday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Thursday-Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.