



News Release  
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Berkeley, California

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### **Tool Lending Library Will Close for Annual Tool Maintenance**

**The Tool Lending Library, a part of the Berkeley Public Library's South Branch, will be closed for annual tool maintenance from April 28 through May 10, 2008, and will reopen on Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. Please call South Branch Library at (510) 981-6260 with any questions.**

The Board of Library Trustees authorized, eleven years ago, an ongoing, annual two-week closure of the Tool Lending Library for maintenance and repairs. This has been a very effective means of keeping the Tool Lending Library at its best. The staff members use this time to repair damaged tools, maintain the facility, check the inventory, and get ready for the sharp increase in patronage and tool usage during the spring and summer months.

Berkeley Public Library's Tool Lending Library was one of the first of its kind. The article on Tool Lending Libraries in the online Wikipedia begins "One of the first tool libraries was the [Berkeley Tool Lending Library](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tool-lending_Libraries), which started in 1979 with a \$30,000 community block grant." [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tool-lending\\_Libraries](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tool-lending_Libraries)

Of course, the Tool Lending Library helps borrowers, **who must be Berkeley residents or people who own property in Berkeley**, to work on all kinds of carpentry, gardening woodworking, and home-improvement projects, but it's not just about tools. There are copies of *Fine Homebuilding* magazine and binders of information on a variety of topics. If you need further information in these areas, the South Branch Library is right nearby.

The Tool Lending Library is regularly open five days a week, and looks forward to reopening Tuesday, May 13, at 10:00 am.

For some other articles on this wonderful institution, ask at any library desk or go to <http://www.thisoldhouse.com/toh/knowhow/tools/article/0,16417,1108985,00.html> or <http://www.berkeleydailyplanet.com/article.cfm?archiveDate=08-19-05&storyID=22136>

For more information on Berkeley Public Library's Tool Lending Library, phone **(510) 981-6260** or go to <http://berkeleypubliclibrary.org/tool/index.html>

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