For Immediate Release   **Contact: Todd Elliott, Director**
October 22, 2018   **(757) 393-8501**

Portsmouth Public Library:
Helping Our Community with "Food for Fines"

Portsmouth Public Library, in partnership with the Food Pantry at Oasis Social Ministry, announces its annual **Food for Fines Drive** throughout the month of November.

During this period, library customers are encouraged to bring undamaged, unexpired boxed or canned non-perishable food items to any Library location. For each single donated food item, library customers will receive a $2 reduction in overdue fines. We will also accept non-food items, such as toothpaste, toilet paper, diapers, and soap.

The Food for Fines program is only applicable to Library overdue fines. No other fees are eligible and you don't have to owe a penny to help. We welcome support from all of our neighbors!

All food donations go directly to the Oasis Food Pantry, which serves the less fortunate right here in our community. The food pantry provided groceries to over 9,000 people last year. Also, they currently deliver to almost 100 home bound senior citizens every month.

Please note, we will not accept damaged or expired items, nor individual servings of ramen noodles. There is a particularly high need for **peanut butter**, and here's the Pantry Needs List:

JELLY	CANNED MEAT (SPAM,	RAMEN (MULTI-PACK
JUICE	CORNED BEEF, etc.)	ONLY)
SOUP	CANNED TUNA	RICE
CANNED VEGETABLES	SPAGHETTI SAUCE	DRY BEANS
CANNED FRUIT	SPAGHETTI	DRY MILK
CEREAL	PORK AND BEANS	
MACARONI & CHEESE	CORNBREAD MIX	

For more information on **Food for Fines** or for library hours, please call (757) 393-8501 or visit us online at www.PortsmouthPublicLibrary.org. The Portsmouth Public Library locations are:

Main Library, 601 Court Street   Cradock Branch, 28 Prospect Parkway
Churchland Branch, 4934 High Street West   Manor Branch, 1401 Elmhurst Lane

Thank you for helping your neighbors this season! If you need assistance with food, please contact Oasis Social Ministry at (757) 397-6060.

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