



GEORGIA PUBLIC
LIBRARY SERVICE

PINES: GEORGIA'S STATEWIDE LIBRARY CARD

What is PINES?

Georgia Library Public Information Network for Electronic Services, or PINES, is Georgia's public library automation and lending network for more than 285 public libraries and affiliated service outlets in nearly 140 counties. PINES serves patrons in all 159 Georgia counties. PINES is an initiative of the Georgia Public Library Service, a unit of the University System of Georgia. Fifty percent of Georgia's population and more than 80 percent of Georgia's public library systems rely on the PINES network for their library service. PINES creates a statewide "borderless library"

that eliminates geographic and socio-economic barriers and provides equal access to information for all Georgians. PINES cardholders live in every county in the state. Georgians with PINES cards have access to materials beyond what is available on their local shelves, and they enjoy the benefits of a shared collection of approximately 10 million books and materials that can be delivered to their home library with no charge to them. Georgia public libraries depend on both the infrastructure and cooperative spirit of PINES to continue providing services that contribute to a more educated Georgia through lifelong learning.

How do Georgia's citizens benefit from PINES?

Any resident of Georgia may obtain a free PINES card by visiting any PINES library. In addition to browsing and checking out books on the shelves of their local libraries, PINES allows library users to log on to www.gapines.org, browse or search the online catalog for books and other library materials and have their selections delivered to their local library. Anyone with a PINES card can access the PINES catalog by using computers at their local library or by using a PIN number to log on from home.

For example:

A library user in a small rural community in Georgia needs information about resume writing. His local library may have two or three relevant books. When he searches the PINES catalog however, he finds 673 relevant items, including books, periodicals, books in Spanish and CD-ROMs.

Another library user is a commuter who lives in an area served by one PINES public library system, but works in an area served by another. She may find visiting the library near

her office more convenient than visiting the library near her home. Her PINES card allows her to use both. Because they are both PINES libraries, she can even check out library materials at one library and return them at the other with no penalty.

How does PINES benefit the state's libraries?

PINES facilitates collection sharing for Georgia's public libraries. This means local public libraries are free to use their limited resources to develop collections tailored to the needs and interests of their communities. Rather than purchasing books that are already available through the PINES network, a local public library can choose to purchase books about the history of the local community or about industry and area job opportunities.

PINES by the Numbers

2 million PINES library cards in use
1 of every 5 Georgians has a PINES card
PINES serves patrons in all 159 Georgia counties
10 million items (books, tapes, CDs, videos)
15.9 million circulations in FY 2008

In addition to avoiding duplication of collections, PINES also prevents duplication of staff, equipment and maintenance. Georgia Public Library Service helps public libraries leverage a tremendous economy of scale by providing staff, equipment and centralized processing at the state level, rather than individually at each public library system. If PINES were eliminated, the estimated replacement cost would be \$15 million for the public library systems currently served by PINES to purchase and install their own automation systems — nearly 10 times the annual cost of PINES. Separate automation systems would collectively cost an additional \$5 million each year in support and maintenance due to the duplication of system administration and support personnel.

With an annual budget of \$1.6 million, the PINES program costs less than \$1 for each cardholder! ■



PINES

www.gapines.org

Georgia Public Library Service
1800 Century Place, Suite 150; Atlanta, GA 30345-4304
tel 404.235.7200 fax 404.235.7201

www.georgialibraries.org

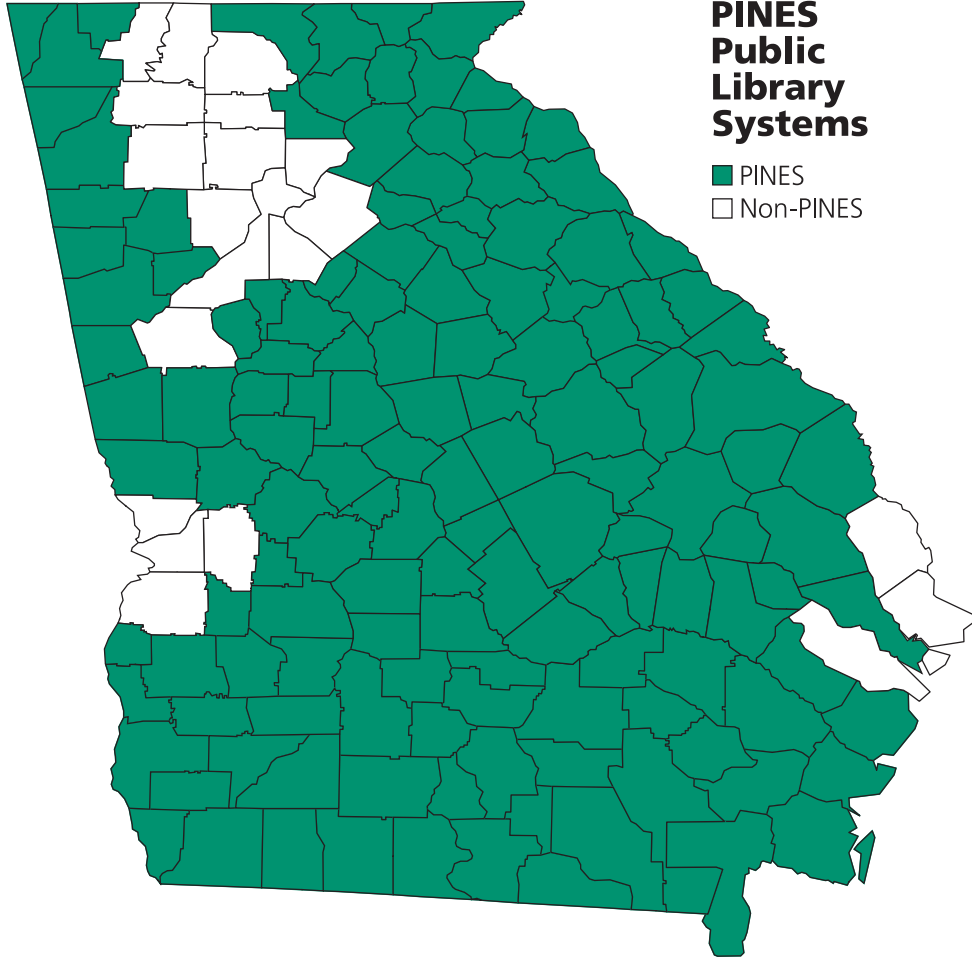
A Unit of the University System of Georgia



PINES

PINES Libraries

- Athens Regional Library System
- Bartram Trail Regional LibrarySystem
- Brooks County Library
- Catoosa County Library
- Chattooga County Library System
- Cherokee Regional Library
- Chestatee Regional Library System
- Clayton County Library System
- Coastal Plain Regional Library
- Conyers-Rockdale Library System
- DeSoto Trail Regional Library
- Dougherty County Public Library
- East Central Georgia Regional Library
- Elbert County Public Library
- Fitzgerald-Ben Hill Library
- Flint River Regional LibrarySystem
- Georgia Public Library Service
- Hall County Library System
- Hart County Library
- Henry County Library System
- Houston County Public Libraries
- Jefferson County Library System
- Kinchafoonee Regional Library System
- Lake Blackshear Regional Library
- Lee County Library
- Middle Georgia Regional Library System
- Moultrie-Colquitt County Public Library
- Mountain Regional Library
- Newton County Library System
- Northeast Georgia Regional Library
- Ocmulgee Regional Library System
- Oconee Regional Library
- Ohoopsee Regional Library System
- Okenfenokee Regional Library System
- Peach Public Libraries
- Piedmont Regional Library System
- Pine Mountain Regional Library System
- Roddenbery Memorial Library
- Sara Hightower Regional Library
- Satilla Regional Library
- Screven-Jenkins Regional Library System
- South Georgia Regional Library System
- Southwest Georgia Regional Library System
- Statesboro Regional Library System
- Thomas County Public Library System
- Three Rivers Regional Library System
- Troup-Harris Regional Library
- Twin Lakes Library System
- Uncle Remus Regional Library System
- West Georgia Regional Library
- Worth County Library System



PINES Public Library Systems

■ PINES
□ Non-PINES

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