

Book Bites - FAQ

Where does the group meet?

We meet on the first Thursday of the month from 1-2pm in the Program Room located on the first floor of the Library.

Do I have to be a Newburyport patron to attend?

No! Anyone can join and residency is not required for any of our programs.

How much does it cost?

It's free to register! You must pay for the recipe ingredients yourself.

How do I register to attend the Book Bites cookbook club?

The link to register is located on the event description on our website calendar at www.newburyportpl.org/events. Please register once you have chosen your recipe and include the name of the dish and any substitutions you may be making to the recipe.

Can I register myself and a friend?

If you are planning on bringing a guest, they must have helped in the preparation of the dish. Please include them in the registration when you sign up. If your friend would like to bring their own dish, please have them register as an individual participant on their own.

When can I register to attend?

Registration is done on a monthly basis and will open the day after the most recent meeting. The deadline for registration is a week before the next meeting.

Is there a limit on how many people can attend each month?

Currently we are limiting the group to the first 12 people that register. A staff member will inform you if the limit for the program has been met and a waitlist will be set up. If someone is unable to make it, we will contact those on the waitlist no later than 48 hours before the meeting.

What if I've signed up, but can no longer attend?

Please call 978-465-4428 x2 or email info@newburyportpl.org to cancel your registration as soon as possible so we can notify those on the waitlist.

I haven't registered, can I still come?

No, drop-ins cannot be accommodated. If you have not registered and claimed a recipe, you cannot attend. The cut-off for registration is the day before the meeting.

How can I get a copy of this month's title?

Copies of the following month's cookbook will be available at each meeting. You can also place a hold through the Library's online catalog at home or by calling the Reference Desk (978-465-4428 x2).

How do I tell the Library which recipe I've chosen to prepare?

When you register, include your name, the dish you will make, and any substitutions you may be making to the recipe.

How do I know which recipes have already been claimed?

The event description will be updated to show which recipes have been claimed by prior registrants.

What if I pick a recipe that someone else already claimed?

We would like to avoid duplicates, so if you see that someone else has already claimed a recipe, we encourage you to pick another. Understandably, if you have already purchased the ingredients for the recipe, go ahead and make the dish. It will be fun to compare!

Can I substitute ingredients or alter the recipe?

Yes! Just be sure to list any substitutions you have made when you sign up so we can avoid any allergy or dietary mishaps.

Do I have to make multiple servings?

No! Just follow the recipe, no need to double up. We taste just a little bit of each dish and with lots of dishes to go through, you'll want to leave room for them all!

What do I need to bring on the day of the meeting?

Your prepared recipe in a serving bowl or tray. We will supply paper plates, etc., but if you would like to be eco-friendly, feel free to bring your own reusable plates/utensils. You may also bring a non-alcoholic beverage if you would like, and water will be provided. If you would like to swap leftovers with others, feel free to bring a food storage container from home.

My recipe is supposed to be served warm or hot. Can I heat it up at the Library?

We are unable to reheat or refrigerate dishes, so please bring your dish ready to serve.

What do we do at the meetings?

We try each dish, talk about what went well, the challenges, what we would do different, and what we loved or disliked! We discuss ingredients, kitchen gadgets, how the cookbook was written, and a little bit about the author's background.

Can I make a recipe that calls for alcohol?

Only if the alcohol is cooked off. We cannot serve alcohol, and you cannot bring alcohol to consume.