

eLibraryNJ.com Audio Book Service

NOTE: ListenNJ is now eLibraryNJ

(posted 3/3/06)

County Executive Brian M. Hughes has announced that eLibraryNJ.com, a digital audio-book site that allows library customers to checkout and download ebooks and audio books with their library cards from home, is now available from the [Mercer County Library System website](#).

This new ebook and audio book service allows the library to offers library patrons a free and legal way to get their digital media to go. The audio book downloads are compatible with most WMA/MP3 players, Pocket PCs, laptops and Windows® PCs. Many titles may also be burned to CD and used in car stereos and regular CD players. Any Mercer County Library System cardholder can download the digital book, or place a hold. Audio books are automatically returned to the system so there are no late fees. Many titles are "always available," featuring unlimited concurrent use. No trip to the library is required -- books can be downloaded from home or office.

The digital collection includes hundreds of popular fiction titles from authors like Nora Roberts, Lemony Snicket, Michael Connelly, and Elmore Leonard, with movie tie-ins such as the *Chronicles of Narnia* and radio productions from the BBC. Audio-books in subjects such as business, self-improvement, history, and other non-fiction genres are also available for download.

"Audio-books are just one more way we can provide the innovation our patrons have come to expect from the library." Hughes added, "Earlier this year the library unveiled [e-notification](#), which notifies patrons of overdue items and reserved items via e-mail, and a brand new [IM \(Instant Messaging\) reference service](#) that allows for live chat between teens and the library during after school hours. The library's goal is to provide patrons with library resources in a manner that is most convenient to them."

Twenty public, academic, school and special libraries from INFOLINK and Central Jersey Regional Library Cooperatives joined in funding the innovative program.