

# Rapid Rocks!



## Tidbit: Easy Lending and Open Access

### What is Easy Lending?

Easy Lending is a database that is comprised only of open access articles; that is, only articles that can be freely lent without copyright compliance concerns. The Easy Lending database is automatically checked against every incoming Rapid borrowing request and when a match is made, the open access article is grabbed by the Rapid system and automatically sent to the borrower via their preferred delivery option. There is no lending staff involvement hence the name Easy Lending.

The matching algorithm for Easy Lending is very strict because it is important that the correct article is sent. As a result of this tight matching algorithm the number of Easy Lending requests filled is not large, but any article

sent without involving staff time is a bonus, right? In addition, Easy Lending requests are filled within 2-5 minutes!

### What Open Access databases are used for Easy Lending?

Rapid staff spend an extraordinary amount of time gleaning information from DOAJ, bepress Legal Repository, BioMed Central, USDA, CiteSeer Scientific Literature, arXiv.org, and the University of Michigan Library. It is important to note that not all of the holdings in these databases is included in the Easy Lending database. Only holdings meeting certain criteria are input into the database.

### Why do I still get requests for Open Access items?

There are several reasons you might get a request for an open

access article. As described above, that item might not be indexed in the Open Access database. The borrowing library may not have been able get to the article at the open access site at the time the request was sent, or maybe they simply missed the fact that it was open access. Please treat these requests as you would any other lending request.

### How can I tell if a request was filled via Easy Lending?

If the lender in your monthly statistical report displays "OPEN" - then that request was filled without any lending staff involvement.

All Rapid sites are automatically turned on for Easy Lending and there is no additional charges for this service.

Very Easy!

## We'd like your help

We are planning an issue of Rapid Rocks! detailing the savings a site realizes on the borrowing side of resource sharing when using Rapid.

Would you be interested in sharing your story?

If so, please contact me at: [jane.smith@colostate.edu](mailto:jane.smith@colostate.edu)

I have a very short set of questions for you (nothing difficult or onerous, I promise!)

Won't you take a few minutes to respond? Being able to provide information about savings from real, live Rapid users is very helpful when we are approaching potential partners.

Thanks very much!

Do you have a "Tidbit" topic you'd like to have addressed, or a question for the Rapid staff?

Maybe you'd like a refresher or tips on some aspect of Rapid processing? Please ask!

[RapidStaff@RapidILL.org](mailto:RapidStaff@RapidILL.org)

Profile: WVU  
West Virginia Univ.

This Rapid Rocks! topic was suggested by Hilary at WVU

- > West Virginia University has been a Rapid member since December 2007!
- > WVU participates in the Academic E, Academic I, Academic M, and PALCI pods.



### Contact Rapid Staff

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