



For Immediate Release on July 19, 2019:

Early on July 17, the Butler County Federated Library System (BCFLS) experienced a ransomware attack on its servers. All Butler County Libraries continue to deal with service issues caused by this attack.

Libraries do not store sensitive personal information.

Since the information breach was detected, BCFLS has been in contact with local police and the FBI. The timeline for restoration of services is uncertain, but IT teams and library staff have been working diligently to restore services as soon as possible.

During the outage, all BCFLS locations will remain open. Additionally, Overdrive eBooks and downloadable audio titles will be available to Butler County Library Card holders, however some locations may have adjusted hours of operation and limit the number of items that can be checked out.

At South Butler Community Library, the following services will not be available:

- Library catalog access
- Use of public computers
- Collection of fines
- Placement of item holds

Other services such as public WiFi access are currently unavailable but are expected. Dog licenses, copying and faxing remain available. Summer programs continue as scheduled. Visit our website calendar or Facebook page for updates on when services return.

While services are down, library staff is encouraging patrons to continue to use the library. BCFLS Board Member Tom Cully says “our libraries are at the height of their popular summer reading programs. Come in to attend any of the many programs offered, read, study, or just beat the heat on these hot summer days. There’s a lot our libraries offer, even with limited technology access.”

Library officials have confirmed that the brand of ransomware used in the attack, Ryuk, is the same ransomware that attacked the Onondaga County, NY library system last week.

Libraries in the BCFLS include:

- Butler Area Public Library
- Prospect Community Library
- Cranberry Public Library
- Zelienople Public Library
- South Butler Library
- Slippery Rock Community Library
- Evans City Public Library
- North Trails Public Library
- Mars Public Library
- Chicora Community Library

All libraries and staff are doing their best to give their patrons and communities the highest level of service during this time and thank the public for their continued patience and understanding.

All inquiries should be directed to Cheryl Ferraro, BCFLS System Administrator – 724-283-1880.