

*Larger libraries also use LibraryThing for **small subsets of the collection**—“New Items in Fiction,” “New Mysteries,” “The teen room zine collection.”

*LibraryThing catalogs offer a **wealth of metadata** attached to each catalog item, including tags, tag clouds, subject headings, LC classification, user catalogs, reading recommendations, user reviews and ratings, groups that are talking about the item, and links to item record on WorldCat, Amazon, AbeBooks, BookSense, and others.

*LibraryThing offers:

*Expanded methods of seeking and discovering items in your catalog

*Reader’s advisory at a glance

*Interaction and enthusiasm for patrons interested in social networking

Pamphlet brought to you by Karen Lillis

Visit Karen on delicious:

<http://delicious.com/eyescorp>

and on LibraryThing:

<http://www.librarything.com/profile/smpresspgh>

Social Tagging with

LibraryThing and Del.icio.us

What is tagging?

Tagging is adding descriptive labels as metadata to digital items such as blog posts, library records, bookmarks, photos, and videos.

What is social tagging?

Social tagging is adding tags within a social networking, or other shared user, environment. Many users may be allowed to tag the same item, which creates a system of taxonomy by users, rather than by experts. This in turn creates parallel or alternative methods of retrieving and up-to-the-minute search vocabularies.

Related terms: Folksonomy, tag cloud, social bookmarking, and Web 2.0.

Del.icio.us:

A Site for Social Bookmarking

*Instead of saving a **bookmark**, or website URL, to your own computer, save it to your **Delicious page**, give it a few descriptive tags, and you've automatically made it viewable & searchable to others!

*Tagging your bookmarks helps you find them again in an intuitively organized way. As Marshall Kirkpatrick puts it (in his list of **Top Reasons to tag items online with del.icio.us or another social bookmarking tool**): "Information overload is real....there is now so much information available that failure to organize what you find useful in an appropriate way will lead to countless lost opportunities."

*Create **tag bundles** (or groups of tags) for yourself to further organize your saved articles and websites. An example of 5 bundles might be: Collection Development, Library Programming, Professional Development, Tags by Place, and Tags by Format.

***Subscribe** to (or **search for**) specific tags to see what articles or posts others are tagging with that word:

see all the links tagged "ALA," "Library2.0," "poetry," "ZineLibrary," "Preservation," "GovDocs," "LibraryProgram," or "LibraryDesign."

*Add other librarians to your **Network** to see at a glance what they're tagging.

LibraryThing: A Paradise for Catalogers, Librarians Who Don't Have Much Time to Catalog, and Reader's Advisory

*LibraryThing is a **Social Cataloging site** where users post and tag their personal, and sometimes public, collections for the public to see.

*Small libraries have started using LibraryThing as an **alternative OPAC**.

*Larger libraries have started using **LibraryThing for Libraries** as a supplement to their existing OPAC.