WEBSTER GROVES
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Annual Report

July 2025–June 2026

Annual Report
Webster Groves Public Library
July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026

The 2025–2026 fiscal year was one of significant progress and planning for the future at the Webster Groves Public Library. While we continued to see strong community engagement, growing interest in our programs, and increased use of digital resources, much of our attention was also focused on the long-term needs of the Library. From completing a much-needed HVAC replacement to preparing for the August 2026 tax levy election, this year brought both challenges and opportunities as we worked to ensure the Library remains a strong resource for the Webster Groves community.

Programming continued to expand, with staff developing new offerings and building on successful programs for children, teens, and adults. Attendance and interest remained strong, reflecting the community's enthusiasm for opportunities to learn, create, and connect. Outreach services for seniors also continued, helping us reach community members who may not be able to visit the Library regularly. Our partnerships with local organizations continued in meaningful ways, including food drives benefiting Webster-Rock Hill Ministries and a Christmas gift drive for youth served by Epworth. These efforts are a reminder that the Library's role in the community extends beyond books and traditional library services.

Reference services remained busy, with passport appointments continuing to be in high demand. Changes to appointment scheduling have helped staff manage this service more efficiently while allowing additional time for other reference work and projects. Interest in local history has also grown, particularly in researching Webster Groves homes and the history of the community.

Circulation remained steady overall, while electronic resource usage continued to increase. OverDrive and Hoopla remain popular services, and in October 2025, the Library reduced the monthly Hoopla borrowing limit to six items per patron. This adjustment has helped bring expenses into better balance while still meeting strong demand for digital materials.

A major highlight of the year was the complete replacement of the Library's HVAC system. After years of ongoing problems and frequent repairs, the aging system had reached the end of its useful life. During the winter, portions of the building were without reliable heat, creating difficult conditions for both staff and patrons. The completion of this substantial project was a welcome improvement and an important investment in the building's future. While the new system addresses one of our most pressing facility concerns, other significant needs, particularly the roof and aging infrastructure, remain.

Planning for those needs became a central focus of the Board of Trustees and Library Director. Following considerable discussion, the Board decided to place a tax levy increase on the August 2026 ballot to address the Library's long-term financial stability and facility needs. During the second half of the fiscal year, considerable time and effort went into preparing for this initiative and sharing information with residents about the Library's funding, the condition of the building, and the challenges of maintaining services amid rising costs. This work also provided valuable opportunities to engage with the community and communicate the Library's current needs and future priorities.

Throughout the year, the Library also continued to provide space for community activities and connections. The Art Gallery featured a variety of exhibits, and the meeting room remained in regular use by local groups and organizations. As we look ahead, our focus will be on building upon the progress made this year while continuing to address the challenges ahead. I am grateful for the hard work and flexibility of our staff, the guidance and support of the Board of Trustees, and the continued involvement of the Webster Groves community. Their contributions are essential as we work toward a sustainable future for the Library.

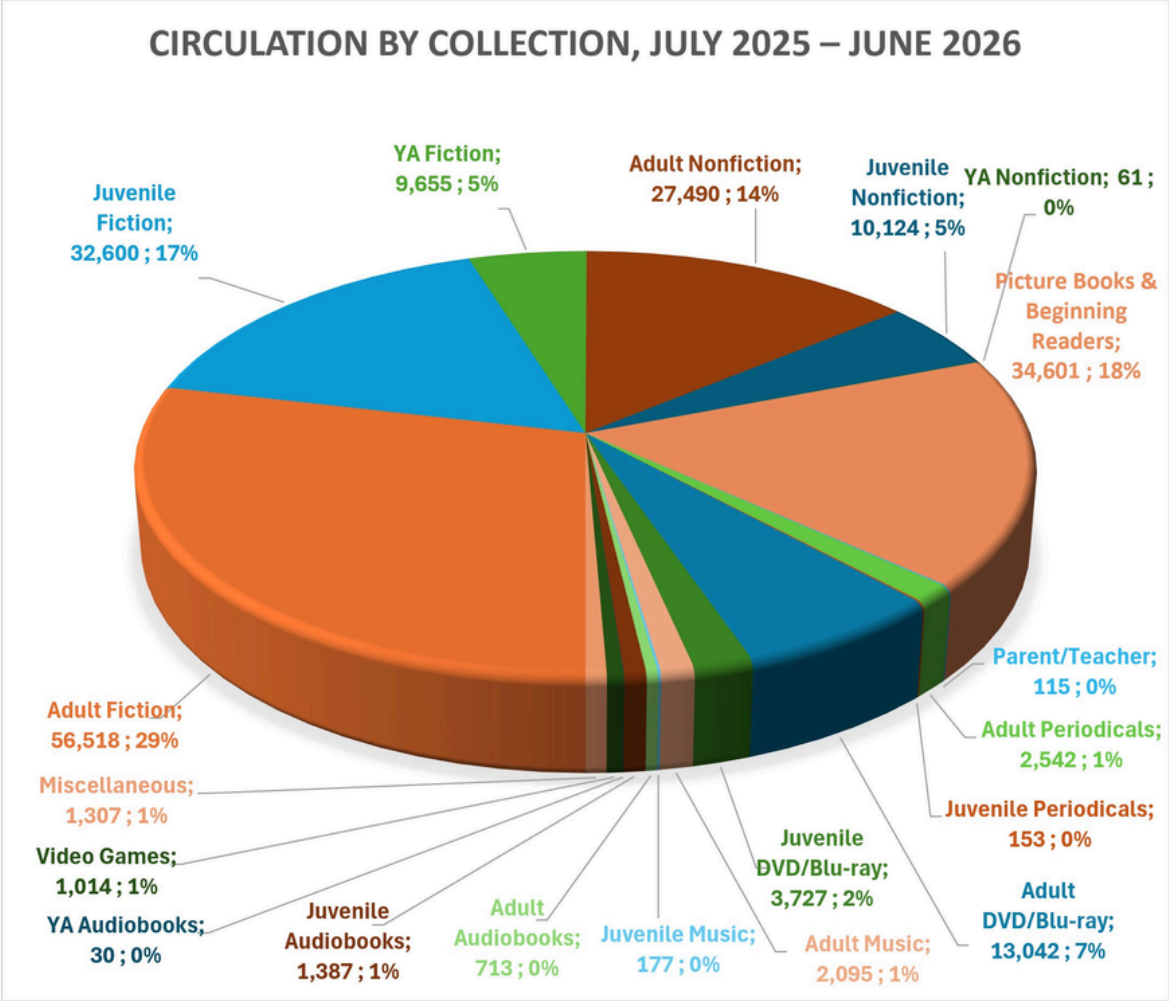
Madison Morris
Library Director

Library Board of Trustees

Officers	
(as of July 2025)	
President	Anita Radcliffe
Vice President	Leanne Waugh
Treasurer/Secretary	Ed Scholl

Member	Term
Lea Ann Coates	2028
Dana Cooley	2027
Jenine Harris	2029
Anita Radcliffe	2027
Ed Scholl	2029
Sherry Taylor	2028
Fred Toelle	2027
Leanne Waugh	2028
Janey Worthington	2029

Library Statistics



NEW LIBRARY CARDS ISSUED: 1,373

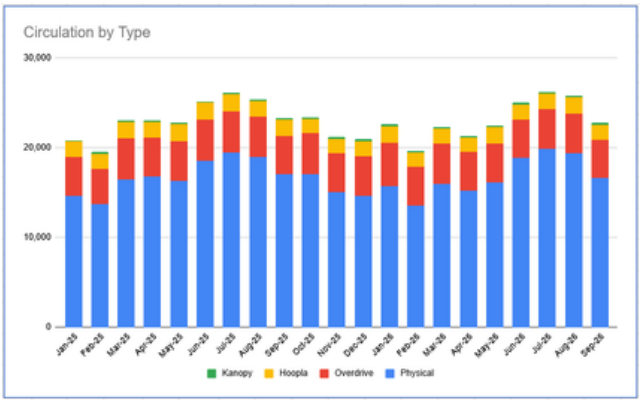
TOTAL NUMBER OF REGISTERED USERS: 11,991

Public Computer Use

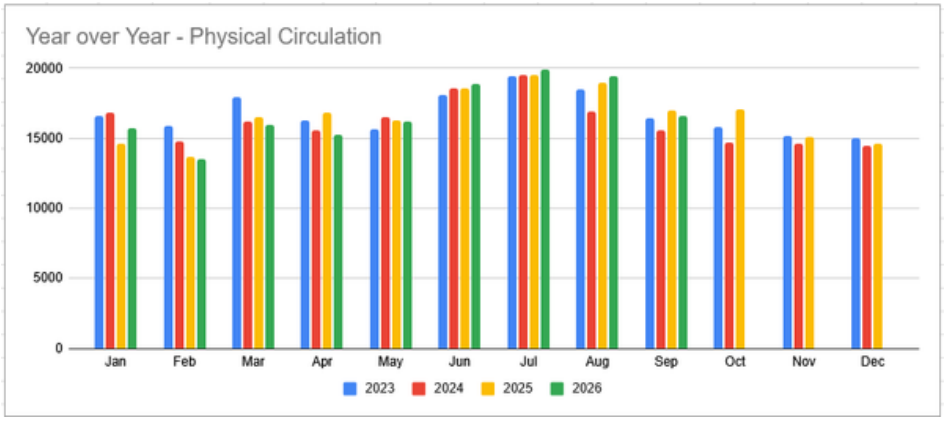
5,186

32,831 WIFI LOGINS

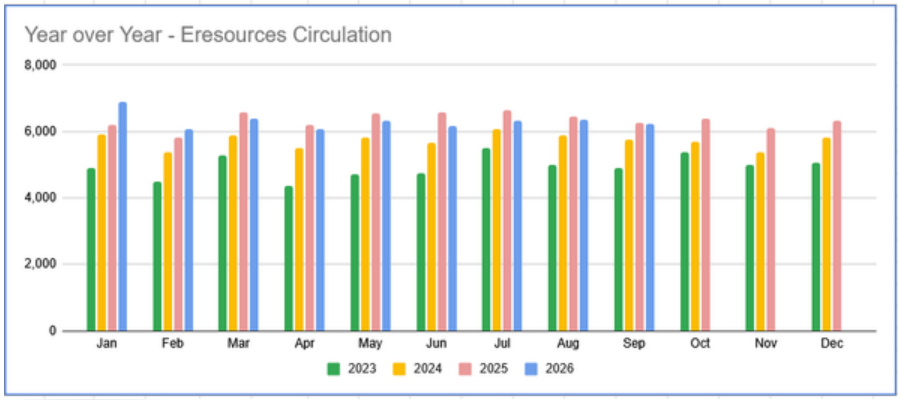
Circulation by Type



Year over Year: Physical Circulation



Year over Year: E-Resources Circulation



Adult Programs and Outreach

Programs Held: 110
Program Attendance: 1,556
Outreach Visits: 77
Homebound Visits: 29

Youth Programs

Youth Programs Held: 127
Youth Program Attendance: 2,262
Teen Programs Held: 13
Teen Program Attendance: 424
Take and Make Craft Kits: 2,400







Art Gallery Exhibits



Webster Groves Public Library Exhibit: Webster Groves Lions
Jim Tuxbury
Women in Focus
Webster Arts
Donna Siede
Virtual Watercolor Artists
Webster Groves Garden Club
Wylie Longmire
St. Louis Colored Pencil Artists Group
Webster Groves Nature Study Society
Patricia Bohn



Meeting Room Use

Community/Outside Groups: 302
Library Staff Use: 239
Total Meeting room Use: 541

House Histories: 47

Book a Librarian: 17

Passports Processed: 1,313

Summer Reading 2025

Children:	452
Teens:	123
Adults:	174
TOTAL:	749

Minutes Read by Children and Teens:

750, 417

Books Read by Adults:

1,400



Summer Reading 2026

Children:	460
Teens:	105
Adults:	264
TOTAL:	829

Minutes Read by Children and Teens:

715, 482

Books Read by Adults:

1,457



Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library continue to make a meaningful difference in the services, resources, and opportunities available to our community. This year alone, the Friends contributed more than $20,000 to support Library programs, materials, and services. Through their generosity, advocacy, and ongoing involvement, the Friends remain one of the Library's most valued partners.

This year, the Friends helped enhance the Library's Reference Area with the purchase of a Shushbooth. This private, sound-reducing space has quickly become a popular and well-used resource, providing patrons with a quiet place for phone calls, virtual meetings, and focused work. It has been a welcome addition to the Reference Area and a great example of how the Friends help the Library respond to the changing needs of our community.

The Friends also continued to support many of the programs and resources our patrons have come to appreciate, including summer reading, large print books, book club kits, the BookPage subscription, and the ever-popular Hot Reads collection.

Toward the end of the year, the Friends took on an especially important role in helping the Library share information about the proposed tax levy. Through community outreach, conversations with residents, and efforts to spread the word, they helped ensure voters were informed about the Library's financial needs and plans for the future. Their involvement highlighted the importance of having a dedicated group of advocates who understand the Library's value to the community.

The Friends' impact extends far beyond their financial contributions. They are dedicated volunteers, enthusiastic advocates, and an important connection between the Library and the community it serves. We are deeply grateful for their generosity, hard work, and continued commitment to the Library's success.







Webster Groves Public Library
DISBURSEMENTS
July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026

OPERATING FUNDS/CHECKING ACCT		
PAYROLL		700,804.95
FICA/MEDICARE/SUTA		54,524.46
HEALTH INSURANCE		107,085.22
PENSION		34,531.10
GROUP LIFE/LT DIS.		2,145.92
WORK. COMP.		1,739.00
E-RESOURCES		90,311.61
BOOKS		78,574.54
REFERENCE SERV.		14,846.39
SERIALS		6,846.96
AUDIO		1,043.62
VIDEO		6,484.50
LIBRARY OF THINGS		281.47
INTERLIB LOAN		9,531.35
PHOTOCOPIER		9,174.52
ELECTRIC		31,085.71
GAS		3,307.71
SEWER		1,471.09
TELEPHONE		9,159.41
WATER		6,960.70
BLDG. SUPPLIES		5,182.86
CLER. SUPPLIES		10,390.30
POSTAGE		6,421.65
BLDG & GROUNDS		101,402.89
AUTOMATION		40,860.93
SECURITY		8,013.10
EQUIPMENT		1,842.74
PROFESSIONAL SER.		48,787.11
INSURANCE		27,920.82
CONF/MTG/STAFF DEV.		823.75
MILEAGE		589.72
DUES		1,078.00
SPECIAL EVENTS		11,933.94
SUBTOTAL		**1,435,158.04**
GRANTS		21,461.89
REFUNDS		39.00
FRIENDS-LP		5,000.00
FRIENDS-OTHER		18,085.29
STAFF ORDERS		867.30
PATRON GIFTS		1,649.18
CAPITAL PROJECTS		496,631.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		**1,978,891.70**

Webster Groves Public Library
SUMMARY RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026

Operating Funds/Checking Account			
	USBANK Operations/Checking Account as of JUNE 30, 2025		**$466,376.29**
	RECEIPTS:		
	TAXES	1,808,808.29	
	MISSOURI STATE AID	17,102.02	
	STATE OF MISSOURI A&E	19,290.01	
	GRANTS	13,069.15	
	FRIENDS SUPPORT	20,379.16	
	COUNTER RECEIPTS:		
	GIFTS	66,825.12	
	FINES/PAID MATERIALS	2,416.87	
	COPIES/BOOK CART SALES	6,576.30	
	BOOK CART SALES	1,857.75	
	PASSPORTS	45,157.00	
	MISCELLANEOUS	4,476.97	
	TOTAL RECEIPTS		2,005,958.64
	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		(1,978,891.70)
	TRANSFERRED TO DEBT SERVICE		(522,168.75)
	TRANSFERRED FROM INVESTMENT ACCOUNT		405,000.00
	TRANSFERRED FROM FEDERATED INVESTMENT FUND		6,436.82
	INTEREST INCOME		364.12
	CREDIT CARD CLEARING DIFFERENCE		410.81
	USBANK Operations/Checking Account as of JUNE 30, 2026		**383,486.23**