



City of Sweet Home
 Sweet Home Public Library
 1101 13th Avenue
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Sweet Home Public Library

Statistics

	This month October 2022	Last month September 2022	Year to date 2022	Previous year 2021(total)
Patron Activity				
OPAC Logins	224	180	2007	3081
SIP2 Logins	550	481	5524	6775
Main Door Count	2500	2358	24822	n/a
Circulation and Renewals				
Checkouts	4377	4817	38349	28723
Renewed items	121	241	5114	9125
E-audio & E-book checkouts	560	501	4670	5491
Total items checked out	5058	5559	48133	43339
Holds Requested				
Holds by Staff	147	178	1315	1683
Holds by OPAC	117	161	1205	1495
Item Counts				
Total items in library	29006	29110	29006	32879
Public Access Computers				
Logins	208	233	2066	2104
Resource Sharing Savings				
Cost savings	4253.53	4907.83	37442.11	n/a
Items borrowed by consortium libraries	267	294	2491	n/a
Items borrowed from consortium libraries	229	337	2496	n/a
Volunteer hours				
Hours worked by volunteers	47	37	421.5	260

Events

Community Reads “Deep River” discussions had over 15 participants in the discussions and over 50 books handed out.

Story time has started up again in the building. Thursdays at 10:30! We are averaging around 15 participants each week, which is perfect for the space that we have for story time.

We are handing out Take and Make kits again, with over 50 going out in October for yarn pumpkins. Our craft table is also back with over 80 scary eyeball nightlights being made in October.

We are offering a Teen Afternoon Gaming and Snack option for teens after school on Wednesdays and Thursdays where teens can play games together and have a snack.

The Library Director participated in Career Day at the High School, with mock interviews for 6 Seniors and over 50 teens (Freshman-Senior) learning about careers in libraries, museums and archives.

Read Around the World reading challenge continues. This is for all ages and encourages readers to read something related to each continent.

Projects ongoing

Looking at cost for potentially adding the option for faxing for the public. Looking at options for adding Notary services at the library.

Items checked out from our collection will now automatically renew three times, unless there is a request from another patron,

New Library update

Many discussions between the City Manager and the Library Director have occurred in regards to options for the library. Planning is beginning for a workshop with the City Council. After the earthquake the needs has become a bit more urgent since the brickwork is not reinforced in the current building.

Fine Free Library update

Background:

In 2021 the library averaged \$40 per month in overdue fines for all materials.

Staff were sending out an average of 90 overdue letters per month (*more than 30 days past due*). This was after phone calls were made or emails had been sent as reminders of overdue items.

Staff were spending 30 minutes per day exclusively handling these payments or contacts with patrons.

Staff also had to reconcile payments that came in everyday, even if just \$.15 Staff time can be averaged at \$20/hour.

The Library paid postage for each letter sent. Paid for an envelope, paper and printing for each letter.

It cost us more to contact patrons and to take payments than we took in each month.

At the end of 2021, with Library Board approval, the Library did a three month trial period of being Fine Free.

During the last month we sent 3 overdue letters. More items were returned on time and more long, long overdue items were returned (some over 2 years overdue).

Now:

The Library Advisory Board voted to remain a Fine Free Library in February 2022.

Staff have fewer negative interactions with patrons.

Staff time can be spent on other projects and programming.

Circulation is up, especially for kid's materials since kid's are not blocked from checking out due to fines.

We inspired both Lebanon and Albany to become at least partially Fine Free.

Patrons are billed the full cost of an item when it is not returned 30 days after the due date, which happens significantly less now.

Library fines are known to disproportionately harm low-income households the most. They are most in need of services that a library offers. The most likely to be impacted by even a minimal fine. The least likely to be able to afford to pay a fine. Sweet Home has a 19.8% poverty rate. Being Fine Free is an asset to our community.