



NORMAN WILLIAMS PUBLIC LIBRARY

10 The Green, Woodstock, Vermont 05091 · 802-457-2295 · normanwilliams.org

Your generous support for the Norman Williams Public Library makes such a difference! By donating, you help us extend our work into every corner of our region at a time when people need us most (nearly 75,000 people came through our doors this year). With each addition to our lending library and every program we offer, we're building on the foundation set 141 years ago at the founding of this library.

Although municipal libraries receive approximately 90% of their annual operating funding from municipal budgets, as an incorporated (non-municipal) library, we receive just 30% from the towns of Woodstock and Bridgewater. Our library must independently fund at least 70% of our annual budget through fundraising efforts, used book sales, and events. **Please help us with your donation today.**

We are passionately committed to adding new dimensions to the library experience by expanding the depth and breadth of in-person and digital opportunities. This year we launched a library of things, a community-based collection of tools, instruments, and shared belongings, including sewing machines, Chromebooks, and a USB mini microphone for podcasting. We also added story-times for children as well as popular Library After Hours programming (this year, 3,600 children attended after-school programs and 1,550 children and caregivers visited preschool story time). And if you happened to be at the library the first Saturday of September, you would have seen 125 children celebrating reading with an end of summer party.

Looking ahead,

- We are working on improvements to the front entrance to save on energy costs and improve accessibility for people in wheelchairs or with strollers.
- Our handicap ramp is currently not usable for three months of the year when snow falls off the roof. As a short-term fix, we are investing in more and better roof guards.
- Additionally, this summer we conducted a community survey seeking input on the children's rooms. Over the coming months we will be implementing the best of those suggestions.

To sustain and grow these levels of services to our community, we need your contributions more than ever. Please consider a gift to our 2025 year-end appeal to support the Norman Williams Public Library. As always, the staff and trustees thank you for your generous support.

Sincerely,

Tom List
President of the Board of Trustees

Clare McFarland
Library Director - clare@normanwilliams.org

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