



The Milford Town Library experienced a circulation increase in digital formats, such as musical CDs, DVDs and computer games. This shift reflects the trend toward purchasing more electronic-based resources and sharing print and electronic resources across library networks such as the Massachusetts Library System (MLS) and the Central/Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing (CW/MARS) network.

Books currently comprise 84% of the collection, with 74,229 adult/young adult volumes, and 32,262 children's volumes for a total of 106,491 volumes. The increase availability of full text access to periodicals online impacts the number of print periodicals purchased. Items loaned from the Adult and Young Adult collection account for 64% of the total circulation and children's materials account for the remaining 36%.

The ready availability of the Internet as a reference resource is reshaping reference services. The level of patron interaction with the reference desk has not decreased. Library staff has shifted to answering reference questions that now include print and web based resources. Library departments answered over 5,200 questions and planned 150 programs. Four new web databases were purchased that can be accessed both outside and within the library. The databases supplement the other web databases supplied through the MLS and the CWMARS Library Network. One of the more popular databases is Mango languages. Purchased through a 2 year grant from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, the service provides patrons access to language tutorials. The database was used by patrons over 500 times in FY 2010 and proved to be an important tool in ESL and remotely allowing access to language instruction.

The Library was awarded a grant in FY 2010 from the Town of Milford Renewable Energy Committee for purchase of materials that promoted and encouraged environmental/conservation issues. The grant also assisted the Library in purchasing energy efficient equipment to be used in instruction and hosting meetings.

The Youth Services Department strives to promote the joy of learning at an early age through interactive story times, book discussions and support of required school coursework. The Summer Reading program is an important collaboration between the Library and the Milford School Department. The Library provides copies and study materials related to the required reading.

The Milford Town Library is a forum for community learning. The content delivery changes but the core mission remains the same. The Library and staff provides guidance through the maze of information resources and create a welcoming environment for learning and enjoyment.

Respectfully Submitted

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Director