

EWML National Library Week Survey Results – Total 481 Participated

There was an issue with the Adult Over 70 category and the Adult 50-70 category. They were deleted temporarily and had to be added back in so they show twice in the graph below. 476 responses.

Over 70: 38 total participated, 8.0%

Age 50-70: 206 total participated, 43.3%

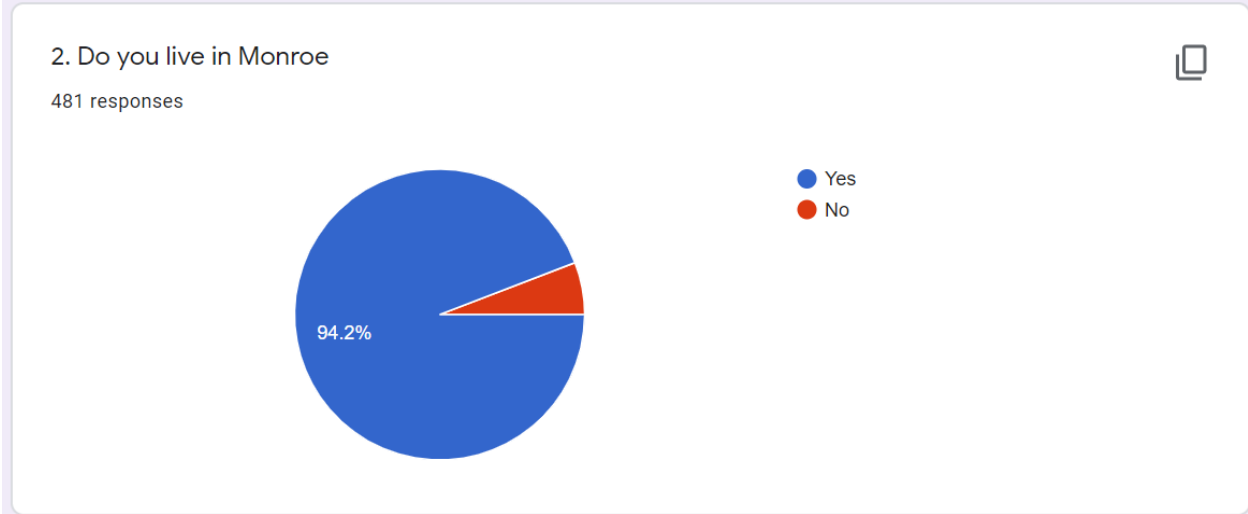
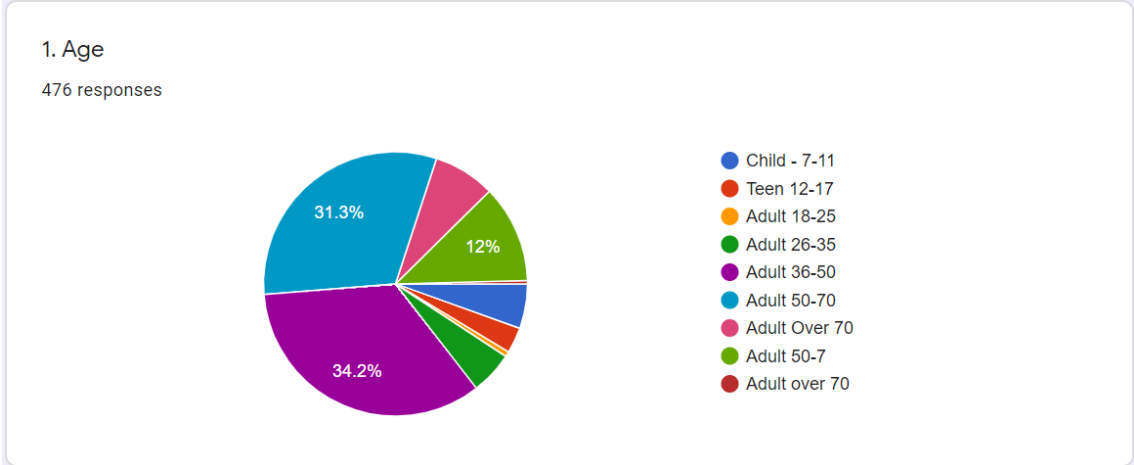
Age: 36-50: 163, 34.2%

Age 26-35: 25, 5.3%

Age 18-25: 3, 0.6%

Age 12-17: 15, 3.2%

Child: 7-11: 26, 5.5%

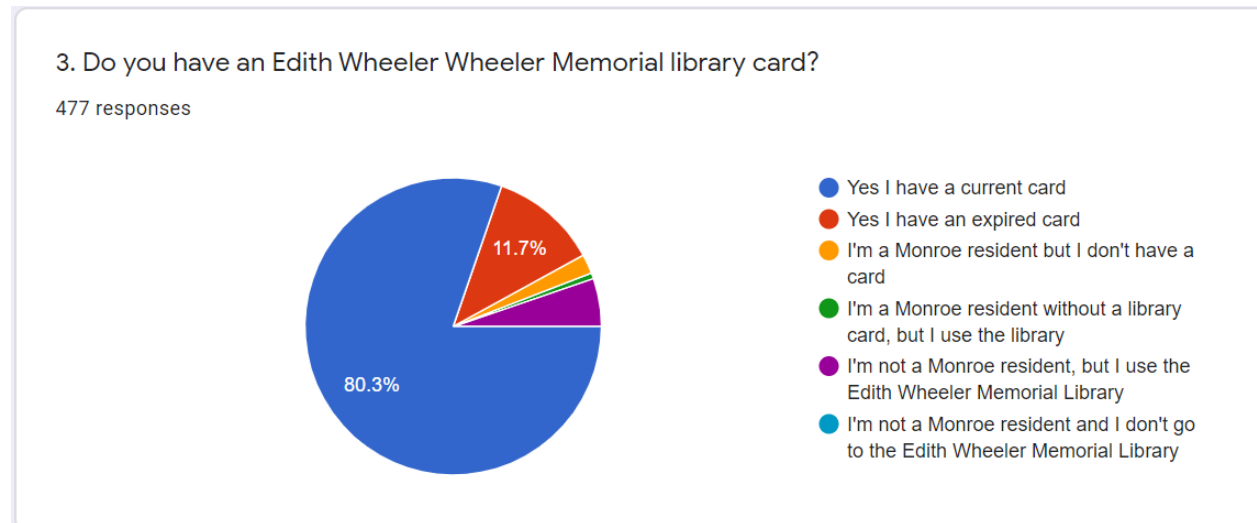


3. Do you have an Edith Wheeler Memorial library card? 477 responses

Resident with no card: 10 people, 2.1%

Monroe Resident, no library card, but use the library 3 people, 0.6%

Not a Monroe resident, but use the library: 25 people, 5.2%



4. How often do you come to the library when it is open to the public? 481 responses

See below plus:

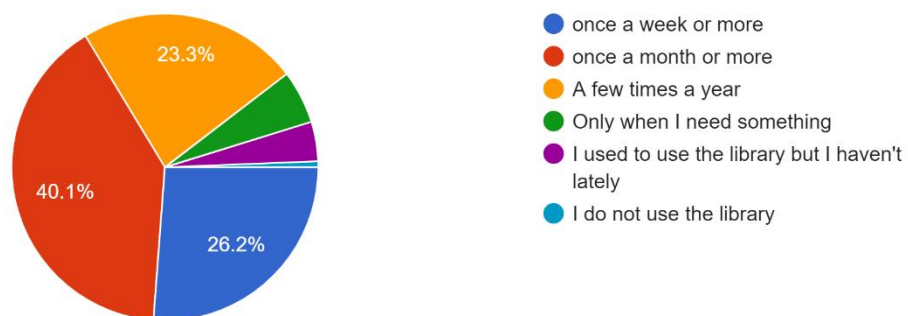
Only when I need something: 27; 5.6%

I used to use the library but I haven't lately: 20; 4.2%

I do not use the library: 3; 0.6%

4. How often do you come to the library when it is open to the public?

481 responses



5. If you do not use the library, please tell us why.71 responses

Comments:

Misc:

I do use the library sometimes. I wish the incoming newer CDs and DVDs were easier to identify so that I don't have to scroll through all of the older ones that have been in the library for some time. Perhaps a posting on the library website or a notice to my email when new items have been received and are available to be borrowed would be very helpful.

I would use it more but they do not have enough cookbooks and bestsellers.

Program-related comments:

Programs are not inclusive

I don't find there are programs that fit my/my family's interests. My kids are 11 & 14 (boys).

Currently we can't due to the virus; however, prior to it I would bring my daughter at least once/week. We have lessened our visits because St. Jude School is no longer open and she is now attending a school in Bpt. Also, there were many programs that were geared towards kids her age but now there are not so many programs for grades 7-8 ages 12-13.

Transportation issues:

I don't drive

I would use library more but don't have a car.

Use our online resources: 8

Hours don't work for them: 3

Use other downloadable services instead of library: 5

Get books elsewhere: 1

No time: 5

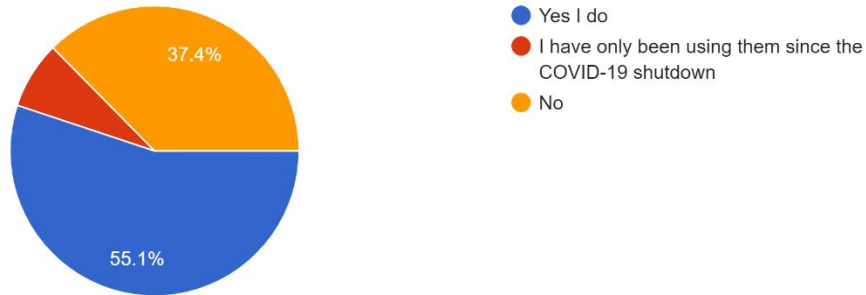
Inconvenient location: 1

#6 – Do you use the library's online services:

A total of 301 people or 62.6% use library's online services – 36 or 7.5% of those people have only been using them since the shutdown

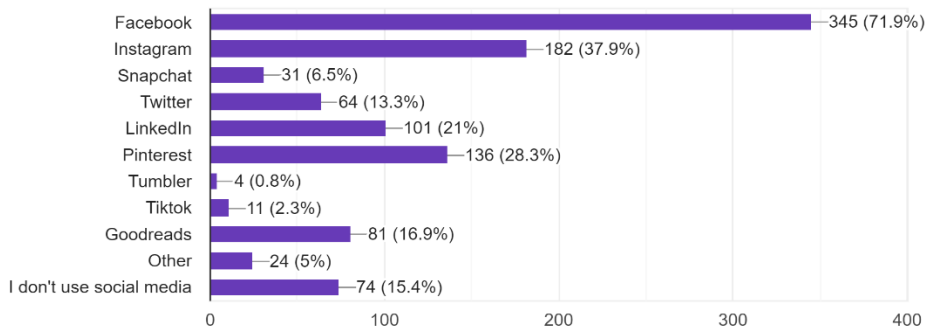
6. Do you use the library's online services?

481 responses



7. Tell us about the social media services you use. Check up to three that you use most.

480 responses



8. If you use Facebook, what are the local groups you follow to stay in touch with what is happening around Town272 responses - this was obviously weighted by the fact that it was posted in the top three groups.

Monroe Residents: 52

Monroe Parents: 46

Monroe Moms: 29

PTO Groups: 8

Monroe Patch: 5

Library: 5

Monroe Sun: 4

Monroe Healthy Helpers: 4

General Town Groups: 4

Monroe Tag sale: 4

Town of Monroe: 4

Monroe Elementary: 3

Monroe Chatter: 2

Masuk Class of 2020: 2

CT Birds: 2

Monroe Neighbors: 1

Monroe Harmony: 1

Monroe Congregational Church: 1

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church: 1

Monroe Artists: 1

Masuk HS: 1

Masuk Robotics: 1

Monroe Parks & Rec: 1

Medical Groups: 1

CT Gardeners: 1

None: 8

#9 - 9. Tell us what groups or hashtags you follow in your other social media platforms

107 responses

None or N/A: 13

Monroe and local info: 6

Food/cooking: 3

Music: 2

Gardening: 2

AllTrails: 1

Crafting etc.: home improvement and crafting blogs

Craft beer and some authors I like :)

Connecticut Kayak Fishing, Connecticut Bait Shop Stops

Beekeeping, Tag Sales

Beardsley Zoo, Sen.Murphy, AZADV, ISS, NASA

Superheroes, Books

Monroe Sun

Masuk Robotics

Montessori, breastfeeding & natural parenting groups

10. Where do you get your local news, information, and events? Check all that apply.

475 responses (see graph below) Percentages don't add up because people could check more than one.

Monroe Patch: 257; 54.1%

Television: 217; 45.7%

CT Post: 214; 45.1%

Facebook : 193; 40.6%

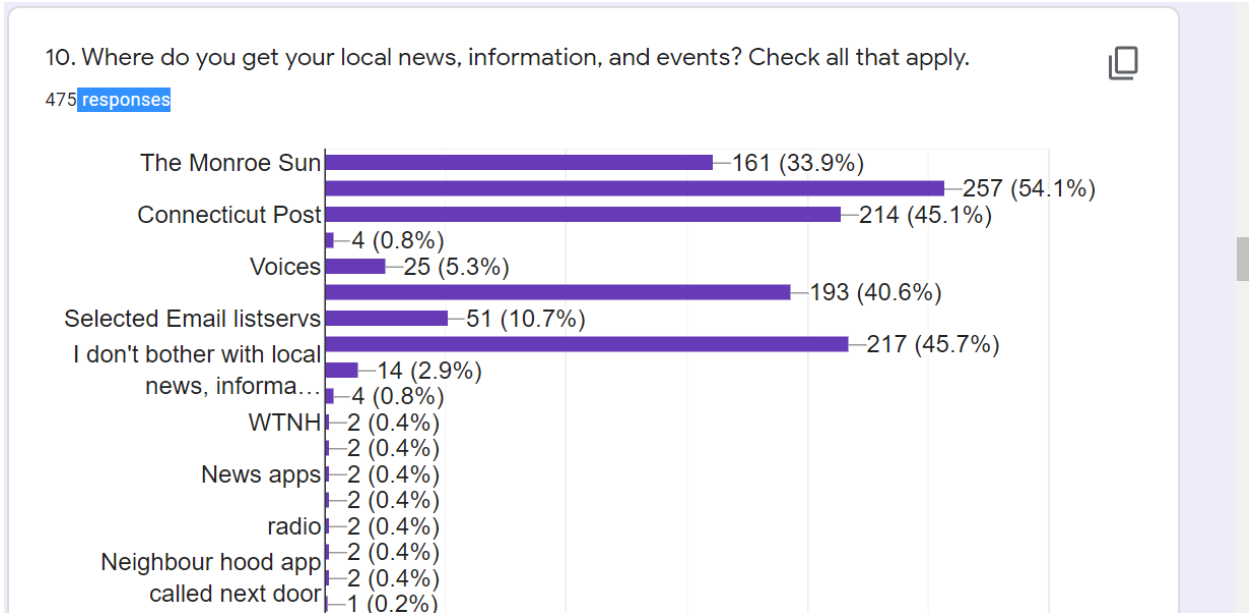
The Monroe Sun: 161; 33.9%

Selected email listservs: 51; 10.7%

Voices: 25; 5.3%

Don't bother with local news: 14; 2.9%

#10. Below: 257 or 54.1% is Monroe Patch. 4 people or 0.8% is Hamlet Hub



11. If you have time to check only one place for local information in a day, what do you check?

384 responses

TV: 35 Breakdown below

General TV: 22

NBC CT app or tv: 5

Channel 12: 4

Channel 8: 3

Fox News: 1

Newspaper: 13 (8 of these specified CT Post)

Internet: 12 (3 of these specified Google)

The Monroe Sun: 8

Facebook: 7 (3 of these specified Monroe Residents)

Monroe Patch: 7

Email listservs: 6

WSHU: 1

Twitter: 1

YouTube: 1

12. What are your hobbies/community interests? General categories with breakdowns below

344 responses

Sports/Fitness and Outdoor Activities: 71 – sub-categories below

Walking: 15

Hiking: 12

Running: 7

Sports: 7

Swimming: 3

Tennis: 2

Birding: 2

Boating: 1

Golf: 1

Camping: 1

Biking: 3

Dance: 1

Exercise: 6

Meditation: 1

Fishing: 2

Kayaking: 1

Little League: 1

Pickleball: 1

Skiing: 1

Soccer coaching: 1

Yoga: 2

Arts and Crafts: 48 sub-categories below

Crafting: 16

Art: 3

Coloring: 2

Crochet: 3

Jewelry Making: 1

Knitting: 2

Needlepoint: 1

Painting: 3

Photography: 3

Tatting: 1

Quilting: 1

Sewing: 3

Scrapbooking: 3

Spinning yarn: 1

Weaving: 1

Woodworking: 4

Reading and Indoor Games: 55 sub-categories below

Reading: 39

Puzzles: 6

Audiobooks: 1

Book discussion group: 2

Board Games: 3

Cards: 1

Crossword Puzzles: 1

Mah Jong: 1

Poker: 1

Cooking: 18 sub-categories below

Cooking: 15 (one allergy free)

Baking: 3

Hobbies: 2

Miniature Gaming: 1 (not sure what this is)

Model Trains: 1

Gearheads: 3

Automobiles: 2

Motorcycling: 1

House and Home: 27

Gardening: 20

DIY Projects: 3

Decorating: 1

Landscaping: 2

Lawn Maintenance: 1

Technology: 1

3D Prototyping: 1

Eating and Drinking Out: 2

Craft Beer Breweries: 1

Dining Out: 1

Travel: 6

Travel: 6

Family Activities/Community Events: 16

Church: 3

Community Fairs: 1

Events/Craft Fairs: 2

Events/activities for Kids: 4

Fun with family: 1

Farmer's Market: 1

Games with kids: 1

Socializing with friends: 1

Scouts: 2

Performance: 15

Movies: 4

Music: 4

Singing: 2

Theater: 2

TV: 2

Guitar playing: 1

Animals: 4

Dogs: 1

Coy Ponds: 1

Horses: 1

Poultry: 1

Cerebral: 16

Writing: 4

Finance: 2

Genealogy: 2

History: 6

Info groups or classes: 1

Political News Book Clubs: 1

Volunteerism: 13

Volunteering: 11

PTO: 2

13. Do you or someone in your family belong to a social group, age group, or sub-community that you feel is underrepresented or under-served in the community? Tell us about the group and about what type of services would be helpful.

131 responses – mostly No. Other answers below

Teens

Teens in this town are under-served. My son would benefit from semi-organized teen sports opportunities. Monroe Parks and Rec does not offer organized activities for teens in this town, except for a High School Rec league in the fall. I am not sure how the library can help since my son is not usually interested in the EWML teen programming that has been available in the past.

There's not as many events for my twin 7th grade girls. They seem to have aged out of the events at the library

teen hang out nights

Teens - something to interest them other than perhaps a sport - especially before they obtain their driver licenses

Chess club, chess tutorials for the youth (LR Note: teens or kids? – not sure)

My son's chess club - it would be fun to have a chess club for middle school kids during the summer (if you are open)

Teens are underserved. Role playing games do not appeal to the vast majority of teens.

Teen center would be nice

Boy Teen- not a minecraft or gamer kid

Tween

Diversity

Yes, we are an interracial family (African-American and Hispanic). Would love to see more diversity in the collection, both racially and socio-economically, and more reading materials in other languages. We often request interlibrary loans to expose our children to literary works from a variety of cultures.

ESL at no cost, people who need help learning English are on the bottom of the economic scale and can not pay for services

Jewish life

LGBTQ - being from a small town, it's hard to find others like you. June is usually Pride month and would be nice to see it represented or even speakers at the library

Working from Home

I work from home and occasionally go to the library for a quiet place to work - I feel like I (and others) would benefit from learning and socializing activities geared toward WFH types. I think this will become even more necessary as jobs change in the future toward even more working from home.

working at home

Special Needs

My son has special needs - would be awesome to have social outlets online or in person once pandemic is over. Sports groups, etc. Special Olympics starts at age 8 and have to travel to surrounding towns.

Special needs groups and activities

Trauma

I wish there was different kind of support group for sexual assault survivors. There is often crisis support groups, but not something for survivors years past the trauma to get together and create a community of support.

Seniors

Senior/homebound

Monroe Seniors needs help to make it more interesting with less fees

Elderly shut ins, of course.

Home bound seniors

55 and older

Senior center meetings & trips& movies

People who are not familiar with technology (LR Note: might not be senior; just a guess)

Young Adults

My 21 year old son would love to get involved in community service and adult sports leagues in his spare time but never hears about any. InSports in Trumbull is all there seems to be. He signed up for one but didn't really enjoy the league he played in. Not enough participation and mostly older men. Monroe in general doesn't seem appealing to the 20-30 age group. We're a town of very young families and older people. Not much for the single demographic in between.

Single young adults

Polite Political Discussion

It would be nice to have a group that could get together and discuss current events in a respectful manner - both local and national

HA! Yeah being a Democrat in Monroe is NOT easy. Sheesh. Less attacks by local Republicans. The Town Council has some members that are super rude. All I ask for is respect and decorum. I live here, too.

Hours

Since I work, more weekend hours would be great. Can't you stay open Thursday evening instead of some other weekday evening?

Misc.

Yes. This would require a sit down meeting if you're truly interested.

I would like to offer more Drum Circles and Shamanic Journey Meditations in Town

I'd love to see more weekend offerings at the library.

14. Are you a member of a Monroe non-profit group that might benefit from partnership with the library? Tell us about your group and what it does.

122 responses

Monroe Playground Foundation - 4

Monroe Historical Society

CERT

Monroe Rotary Club

No, unless Masuk Interract counts

It would be nice to have a more reliable place to hold cub scout meetings.

Cub Scouts

Church; sponsor of Generation Bridge - connecting neighbors to neighbors with resources and leaders to help with life's challenges at all ages and stages

Monroe Lacrosse Association, youth league for boys and girls lacrosse in town

Save Our Stepney Task Force

Valley Regional Adult Education

I'm the president of Whitney Farms Women's Association. We try to get families of Whitney Farms area together for fun and to help others and stay informed of what's going on

Monroe Food Pantry -2

Yes. Running a language class for 30kids at Trumbull town hall for free. We have 32 classes during the school year.

Knights of Columbus/

PTO - 2

MOMS Club of Shelton & Monroe, we've worked together recently for a successful summer camp fair and multiple years of book donations

'Just Voices' is an excellent source of singing venues, from all genre.

15. Tell us about what library programs you would be interested in attending.

217 responses

Book Club: 12 (includes request for mystery book club)

History, World history, History of Monroe, local history: 11

Crafting: 11 (sewing class, wreath making, blanket making, Holiday, etc)

Musical Performances: 10

Movies: 9

Makerspace equipment: 8

Interesting Lectures: 7

Arts: 7

Gardening: 6

Cooking: 6 (one of these is a vote for holiday food)

Author Talks: 5

Crochet/Knitting: 4

Nature: 3

Current Events: 1

Political discussions: 1

Religion: 1

Sports: 1

I wanted to attend the laser print workshops but weekday mornings were not convenient time

basic woodworking: 1

Quilting: 1

Freshwater fishing

Travel: 1

Game groups: 1

Would like to see more advanced computer workshops like adult coding, Wordpress building websites: 3

Skill Training (?): 1

"How to" programs that are not art: 1

Adult education - learning new things, not necessary business related, could be hobbies, nature, music, self-help, etc.

Zentangle: 1

Healthy Eating, Wellness, Happiness: 2

Personal development

Girls' night out: 1

Board Games: 1

How to borrow downloadables: 1

Yoga: 1

Small tour of new things that the library offers - so actually see what the tax money is going to and if we can use it

The library needs to stop being afraid to charge for classes. The budget does not allow for the same level of activities as more wealthy towns (Westport, Fairfield, Weston), but the interest is there to attend programs. Monroe also lacks an adult education program. If the library charged for attendance, you could build this out.

I would eventually like to offer or be a part of self help, drum circle and guided meditations program.

Children

activities for young children: 1

children's/Family programs: 1

Kid stuff: 4

For elementary aged children, NOT during the week day, sometime that working parents can attend.

Love the Children programs, my daughter still talks about the unicorn ride she had a few years ago, story hour, bingo

Crafts for kids

Programs for my 2 year old grandson on spectrum

Teens

Fun stuff for teens and tweens: 2

storytelling, book clubs, makerspace activities, crafts, knitting, drawing, author visits **ALL for tweens and teens**

SAT/ACT prep classes for my high schoolers, college admissions: 2

Movie, Art and Cooking programs if available for teens. Maybe a book club

16. Due to social distancing, we have recently started running programs online. Would you like online programming to continue when everything re-opens completely, or do you prefer in-house programs?

448 responses



17. What are the best days and times for you to come to the library?

397 responses

Weekends: 33

Evenings: 22

Afternoon: 18 (8 of these said after 4)

Saturdays: 5

Sundays: 2

Days and Weekends: 1

Anytime: 15

Wednesdays: 4

Weekday mornings: 6

Weekdays before dinner: 2

During the week any time of day: 1

Weekdays: 5

18. What are your preferred days and times for programs?

302 responses

Weekends: 23

Evenings: 30

Afternoons: 17 (7 of these said 4:30)

Saturday: 7

Weekdays: 5 (2 of these asked for daytime)

Mornings: 4

Sunday Afternoon: 2

Sunday: 2

Early Evenings: 3

Friday nights: 2

Thursday evenings: 2

Wednesday Evenings: 3

Wednesday through Friday: 1

Tuesday through Friday: 1

Monday through Thursday

Daytime tues and thurs

Any time: 8

19. What is your favorite service that the library provides?

318 responses

Books: 25

Some form of downloadable materials: 12

DVDs: 11

Children's Programs: 9

Educational speakers: 6

Crafts: 6

Music CDs: 4

Museum Passes: 4

Makerspace: 4

Art Programs: 4

The space: 4 (a couple said quiet space)

Children's books: 3

Magazines: 3

Audiobooks: 3

Children's space: 3

Monthly Movies: 2

Reserving Books: 2

Music programs: 2

Book sales: 2

ILL: 2

Book Discussion: 2

Teen Programs for girls: 1

Helpful staff: 1

Electronic resources: 1

Mango: 1

Teen crafts: 1

Online access: 1

Minecraft: 1

Self-checkout: 1

Puzzles: 1

Newspapers: 1

Copier; 1

Online Renewal: 1

Computer access: 1

Reference assistance: 1

New Teen space: 1

Summer reading programs: 1

Computer help: 1

Library to Go: 1

Story times; 1

Programs in general: 1

Wifi hotspots: 1

20. What is a service you would like to see that the library doesn't provide

133 responses – I took out all n/a but left in everything else. Just read through these.

Sunday afternoon openings

Outdoor reading area

Medical programs or generalized science topics. Knitting or crochet

Projects or hands on help

I know you have free downloads for certain books, but the service is not user friendly at all. I tried it once and the password didn't work, there were too many steps, so I eventually gave up.

Can't think of any

More certification programs

More program for people in my age group 50 and up.

Advanced adult computer. Coding, websites etc

SCORE business advisors

Videotaping library presentations for later broadcast on YouTube.

teen hangouts or study groups

Notification of new CDs and DVDs to the library via email. Even all materials as long as they are identified as to format, books, audiobooks, etc.....

More online books please.

don't know at the moment- you're doing a great job as is, and congratulations!

Increase the number of books availability for circulation online/Libby

Add new books to the audiobook library

Once a month email notification of upcoming events and programs at the library

A school bus stop there for middle school kids to go after school

Bring in more authors, maybe you do that and I just don't know about it

I'm good. Very happy with library

Perhaps more museum & park passes or discounts programs

More ebooks

More programs on outdoor activities like fishing, hiking trails, walking trails, recommended seasonal biking tours, kayaking tours on Connecticut and Farmington rivers, Connecticut State Parks, points of interest and conservation.

Better way to do the summer reading program so all kids are encouraged each week to participate. Could do a weekly prize box for reading. My old library also had a selection of books one could pick from each week when you read that week.

More learning-social opportunities for older children, could be roundtable discussions based on "hot topics" or sports, book clubs, coding club, lego club... (more options aside from movie night and Minecraft)

foot massage

Online books that read to children

I can't think of anything - I think the Monroe Library does a great job.

A place to listen to music and read

Lending Video games for the popular Gaming consoles and Language learning Programs in the form of complete kit or package; Language learning booths

pc video games

More books on travel destinations.

You do a great job of supplying the books I request for my book clubs. I do not have other requests at this time.

Business services for solo practitioners

Additional children's programming at other times of day

Friday night fun for 5th graders. Bring back Friday night movies for middle schoolers.

Adult crafting

Training for Using social media

Wood crafting, astronomy, science, nature related courses

More digital books. Many popular titles are not available on Hoopla.

Hmmmm not sure since you already provide great services but will email you if I think of any!

Books available to read online in pdf format for school

Special activities with children on the autistic spectrum

Cooking, wine, knitting classes even if you have to charge for attendance.

More cricut training. The machine is behind glass and it is difficult to get training. It is almost as if the library wants to tease you - we have this, but we don't really want anyone to use it.

The library already provides a lot of wonderful services and the staff is phenomenal. I just wish the music department wasn't reduced in size.

I can't think of anything not being provided currently that I would want to see.

Curriculum checkouts; Herbal education

Book Club for elementary school kids - we enjoyed the Harry Potter online book discussion so we would like more of those.

More teen programs (movie night, etc..)

Yoga, especially since it is promoted so much in the town preschool.

Language learning

You have so many great options!! Maybe programs for better health... cooking, exercise, nutrition.

I think the library does an excellent job!

Excel courses

Better online content and book loans

At the beginning of Covid-19, our family really enjoyed when the library books were able to be taken out and we picked them up. If after the books are dropped off again to the library, can the staff use the tables to set them aside for three days before they're allowed to be taken out again so that the germs are not active? And the library staff safely handles them with mask and gloves on?

More plant based programs and mystery book club

Classes on amateur digital photography

A more complete set of back issues of NY Times. The library set of microfilm is missing WW I & WW II. Online version would work just as well as microfilm.

Cricut class

Groups for elderly

More teen programs

education such as gardening, home repair, health and diet.

You all are doing great. Keep up the good work

not sure. You're doing a great job!

Dissertation tips

Can't think of a thing -- the library provides a great range of services!

How to do something classes

Full maker space area, CNC router, craft cutter, laser cutter.

Teen book club

I feel as though my needs are met

I love the library just wish I had more free time to go!

Yoga, Chess club & more middle school age kids activities

More movies

I am happy with the current service the library provides.

Seed share

Not sure if you've adopted this....lend items after calling the patron with a pick up time

Social services or food pantry drop off boxes

More programs for the middle aged child-

extended hours

More accessible section on non-fiction new releases, current section too crowded

Programs and crafts for 12-14yr olds

Maybe outside story time?