



# Town of Esopus Library



## 2021 Annual Report to the Community

2021 was another challenging year, continuing to carefully consider patron and staff safety when exploring onsite programming and services. Some were getting tired of online programming, especially after the increased safety of vaccinations became available. We found that we needed to do a lot of hybrid programs, as there were a pretty even split, as the year wore on, between the participants that wanted the safety of a Zoom program, and those that no longer got much enjoyment in participating online. We continued to exercise COVID safety protocols, and thus did our part in helping to keep COVID from spreading.

We continued to have good circulation of items, which continued to grow throughout the year. E-book circulation sky-rocketed across the library system, which makes sense, considering the number of people that were still spending a lot of time at home. Below you can see some of the numbers that were reported in our Annual Report to NYS Department of Library Development. We are proud of the services that we have provided during this trying time.

Circulation of books- 23,050

Circulation CDs & DVDs- 9,087

Circulation of electronic material- 12,697

Interlibrary loan items, provided to library system  
patrons- 10,226

Books owned- 19,870

Wifi sessions- 2210

Registered resident borrowers- 4,452



The digital sign went up, and the community has given us lots of positive feedback. It is functioning well, and as it was intended, which is to inform the community about programs that are coming up. We are very grateful to all the people and businesses whose monetary donations helped to make it happen.



The natural world around the library continues to make it special among libraries. We have four species of fish in our pond, which we feed during the warmer months. Thank you to John Clark, of Northeastern Aquatics, for donating fish food to us on a regular basis! It makes the turtles happy, too.

The community garden, where patrons grow vegetables each year, is going strong. We are talking about how to make some of the plots accessible for gardening from a wheel chair, and how to create gardens that older patrons can garden more easily.



I'd like to thank you all for your support, and look forward to the seeing you, smiling, at the library!

My Best to you,

Brooke Dittmar, Library Director



We enjoy discussing ideas for other ways to utilize our grounds, preserving the natural nature of it. Some ideas for projects are to create a walking path that is laid out around the property, with the intent of having a nice place for people to exercise year round. We'd like to clean up our little forest, so that the trail can wander through it, and some picturesque sitting areas can be created.

We have applied for a grant to create native plant and pollinator gardens, in an effort to help bring our natural world back into balance.