



Worcester-Schenevus Library

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since the library opened its new building in March 2019, much has changed. The purpose of this newsletter is to give you an overview of our services and explain why we will be asking for an increase to the library tax included on your school tax bill. The vote will be by absentee ballot only, mailed to every resident and due back on Tuesday, June 9. If you haven't visited the new library yet, we hope you will be inspired to do so when we open again.

Why we need more funding:

Library use has increased 30%

More patrons require more access. More hours mean higher salaries. *Note: Our strong team of volunteers saves us at least \$9000/yr. in wages.*

State contribution to libraries has decreased

With the current crisis, the state could lower funding even more. Essential services to run a library like processing books, tech support, interlibrary loans and the bookmobile still need to be funded.

Maintenance of the new facility is higher

Note: The purchase & renovation of the new library cost \$0 to tax payers. Grants, foundations and private donations funded the project.

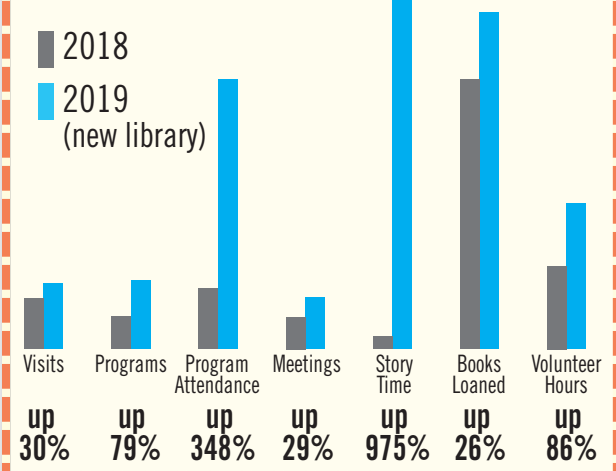
We plan no tax increase for the next 4-5 years

Note: There have been no increases for over 5 years.

What you get:

- **Books, DVDs, audio books, eBooks, magazines, newspapers:** Patrons have access to over 1.7 million items from 42 libraries. Interlibrary loans allow you to order a book and have it delivered right to our library for pickup usually within a week.
- **Programs:** StoryTime every week, crochet circle, book clubs, Battle of the Books, lectures on gardening, local history, health & the environment.
- **Exhibitions:** The library collaborates with both the Worcester and Maryland historical societies to create mini-displays of their collections. Past exhibits: Jim Konstanty, Schenevus in the 50s & 60s, and Eight Prominent Women of Worcester's Past. Future displays: The Worcester Woman's Club, Schenevus Fireman's Carnival.
- **Community service:** Many organizations take advantage of our location and conference room to offer appointments (Office for the Aging with Medicare and Bassett Hospital for ACA insurance). Many town organizations now hold their meetings at the library.
- **Bookmobile:** For those that live farther away from the library, the bookmobile is available to Westford and Schenevus once a month. Stats show that Westford is the 4th most used bookmobile stop in the system.
- **Other amenities:** Seven computer stations, 24/7 broadband internet access, fishing poles, children's room, color copier, fax, paper shredding, conference room for private tutoring, Zoom and Skype meetings.

Statistics:



“Libraries are essential to communities and no other place comes close”

- Toni Morrison



For less than the cost of a book you will be supporting this valuable asset to the community.

Local
Postal Customer

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

Estimate of tax increase for a typical household

Worcester School District: .3214 for every \$1,000 of assessed property.

Example: \$75,000 property assessment would cost \$24.10 per year

Schenevus School District: .1299 for every \$1,000 of assessed property.

Example: \$75,000 property assessment would cost \$9.74 per year

To view the projected library budget please go to our website or call to receive a print-out.

www.worcesterfreelibrary.org; 607-397-7309

Voting will be by absentee ballot only.

Ballots will be mailed to all qualifying voters and **must be returned by June 9th.**

The Worcester School District Proposition:

Resolved, that pursuant to Education Law, Section 259, the Board of Education of the Worcester Central School is authorized to levy and collect an annual tax, year after year, separate and apart from the annual school district budget, in the amount of \$32,500 (an increase of \$7500 to the current tax levy) which shall be paid to the Worcester Free Library for the support and maintenance of the library; with this appropriated amount to be the annual appropriation until thereafter modified by a future vote of the electors of the Worcester Central School.

The Schenevus School District Proposition:

Resolved, that pursuant to Education Law, Section 259, the Board of Education of the Schenevus Central School District is authorized to levy and collect an annual tax, year after year, separate and apart from the annual school district budget, in the amount of \$25,000 (an increase of \$7500 to the current tax levy) which shall be paid to the Worcester Free Library for the support and maintenance of the library; with this appropriated amount to be the annual appropriation until thereafter modified by a future vote of the electors of the Schenevus Central School District.

It's your library: Take advantage of these great services

- 24 hr/7 days Wi-Fi (5G coming)
- Current bestsellers
- 7 public computers
- Reading Programs: Summer Reading Program, Weekly StoryTime
- Books, DVDs, audio books, CDs available from 42 libraries
- Magazines & local newspapers
- Free online books, audio books, magazines & newspapers
- eReaders (Nook & Kindle) to loan
- Evening and day book clubs
- Adult lecture series
- Genealogy programs (free access to ancestry.com)
- Local history collection
- Business resources: fax, color copier, paper shredder
- Exhibitions of local history
- Easy parking
- Library Used Bookshop

Our mission statement:

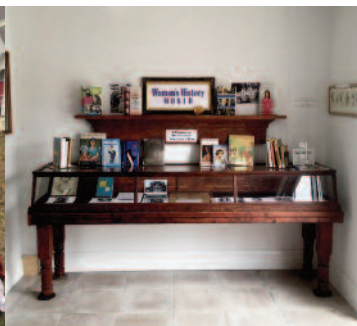
The mission of the Worcester-Schenevus Library is to inspire lifelong learning, advance knowledge, and strengthen our communities. The library's target population includes schools and families in the towns of Worcester, Maryland, Decatur and Westford.



Four-County Bookmobile



StoryTime children



Display case



Computer stations

Note: The Worcester Free Library is the legal name on our state charter. We adopted Worcester-Schenevus Library as our DBA to represent more of our community.