NEVADA PUBLIC LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

2025-2026



Mission Statement

"Transforming lives and building community through information, education, and recreation."

Nevada Public Library

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Jodi L. Polk

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Denise Carrick-Hedges
President
Lucia Green
Vice-President
Julie Scotten
Treasurer
Caroline Taylor
Secretary

Bethany Blackburn
Chloe Bollin
Lindy Hartman
Judy Hurt
Trisha Stubblefield

417 - 448 - 2770
info@nplmo.org
nplmo.org

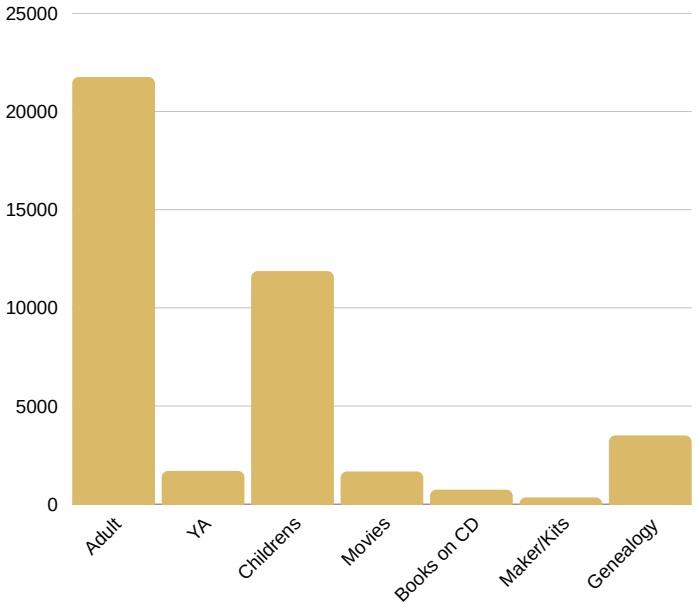
Nevada Public Library
218 W. Walnut St.
Nevada, MO 64772

LIBRARY STATISTICS

WHAT CAN YOU READ, WATCH, AND DOWNLOAD FROM NPL?

NPL COLLECTION AT A GLANCE

41,576 PHYSICAL ITEMS



NEW ITEMS ADDED THIS YEAR:

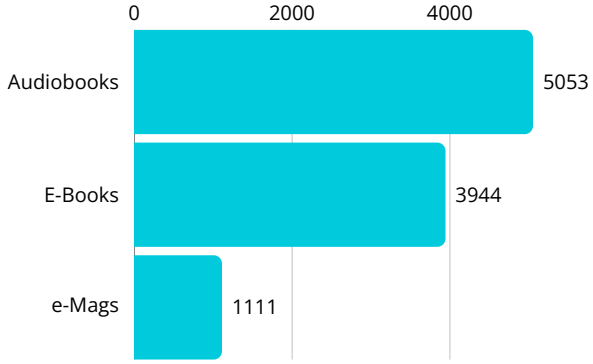
609 ADULT TITLES

643 YOUTH & YA TITLES

96 MOVIES & BOOKS ON CD

DIGITAL CIRCULATION

LIBBY & OVERDRIVE



FY26 revealed a shift in the use of the digital collection with statistics showing audiobooks preferred over e-books for the first time since NPL joined the MOLib2Go consortium in 2011!

COLLECTION USE

Items Borrowed by NPL patrons

Physical Materials - 44,250

Digital Materials - 10,092

Total Circulation = 54,342 items

MISSOURI EVERGREEN INTERLIBRARY LOAN

WITH MORE THAN 6 MILLION ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE CONSORTIUM'S SHARED CATALOG, NPL PATRONS **BORROWED 4,073** ITEMS FROM OTHER MISSOURI EVERGREEN LIBRARIES!

NPL **LOANED 3,451** ITEMS FROM OUR PHYSICAL COLLECTION TO PATRONS OF OTHER MISSOURI EVERGREEN LIBRARIES.

ONLINE DATABASES

MOREnet search.more.net

EBSCO & Explora
HERITAGE QUEST
LEARNING EXPRESS LIBRARY
ROSEN LEARNING
TEACHING BOOKS
VET NOW

Nevada Public Library

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

HOW DO WE CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY?

2025 All-ages Jigsaw Puzzle Race



3,637 PATRONS ATTENDED A FY26 LIBRARY PROGRAM OR EVENT

ADULT PROGRAMS

Adult "Tech-Connect" 1-on-1 assistance
Adult Book Buzz Discussion Groups
Adult 'Color Me Calm' coloring/art sessions
TV Trivia Tuesdays + BINGO
Home-bound Outreach service
Fantasy Football



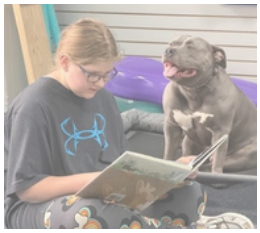
YOUTH PROGRAMS



Storytime at your library

Cheryl Mutch leads storytime events twice each month for our youngest readers & their families. **Preschool storytime** focuses on building kindergarten-readiness skills while **Toddler Storytime** focuses on concepts such as letters, numbers, shapes .

Community Partnerships



Paws to READ with B.B. K-9 School



Sensory & Stretch Storytime Nevada Community Center

STEAM & Stories

This program features a read-aloud story focusing on one of the elements of Science, Tech, Engineering, Art and/or Math. Then children in grades K-5th use the engineering process while they complete a S.T.E.A.M. project together!





2026 Summer Reading Program
Over 320 locals participated in NPL's 2026 "UnEarth a Story" summer reading program. Readers logged 159,500 minutes of reading plus an additional 115 books for those who tracked the number of books over minutes.

NPL's Local Author Showcase



1,000 Books before Kindergarten

More than 70 families participate in NPL's **1,000 Books before Kindergarten!** This nationally endorsed program encourages parents to practice essential foundations of literacy with their children.







TEEN D&D Club

Teens in grades 6-12 participated in NPL's weekly D&D club sessions led by Kevin Polo.

Teens work in small groups with a focus on collaboration, leadership, and teamwork as the Dungeons & Dragons adventures unfold.

More fun with Maker Mondays, Teen Take & Make kits, LEGO Books & Bricks, Winter Reading Challenges, and more!

Nevada Public Library

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SUPPORT

Connecting Community. Connecting Resources. Connecting People.

FY26 was all about connections! From community partnerships and donor support to new technology, stronger collections, and improvements to our historic building, Nevada Public Library continued connecting our community to more resources, better spaces, new opportunities, and to a library here to serve THEM.

BUILDING & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

NPL received two unexpected gifts in FY26;

- **$10,000 Carnegie Foundation Grant**

Supporting the exterior tuckpointing and painting project to preserve and improve the library building.

- **$10,000 Anonymous Donor Match —**

A generous local donor matched the Carnegie Foundation grant, doubling the community investment in this important capital project.

Facade Improvement begins — damaged and soiled exterior awnings were removed in late spring 2026, immediately improving the appearance of the library's historic facade.

NPL FOUNDATION, FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Turning partnerships into practical help for our neighbors. Throughout the year, the Friends and Foundation helped strengthen the library's role as a community connection point — not just for books and technology, but for people and community needs.

🌮 **October — "Dragons Love Tacos" Food Drive**

A fun, family-friendly food drive benefiting the Community Outreach Food Pantry.

🧡 **November- "Warm Hearts, Blanket Drive"**

A community collection supporting the Community Outreach Closet and helping neighbors stay warm.

🥘 **December — "Friends Feed Families" Meal Kits**

A holiday-season effort to provide meal kits to local families affected by the loss or reduction of assistance during the government shutdown.

TECHNOLOGY & COLLECTION INVESTMENTS

Connecting our community to better technology and more materials

A **$16,500 LSTA Technology Mini-Grant** funded all-new public and staff computers, replacing aging equipment and improving access to technology.

The **LSTA 2026 Summer Reading Grant** supported more than $5,000 in new youth collection materials, giving children and families more books and resources to discover.

Two AAUW Grants supported additions to the library's STEAM collection, expanding opportunities for learning in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics.

An anonymous $4,000 donation supported enhanced technology and upcoming furnishing upgrades in the NPL Community Meeting Rooms.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Connecting local organizations, businesses, donors, and residents with the library.

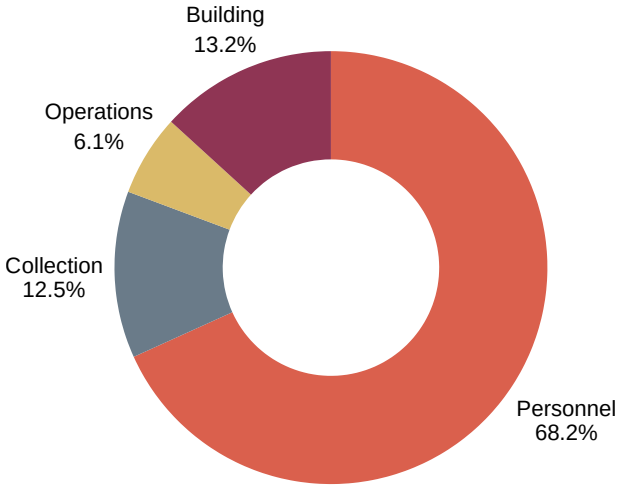
Nevada R-5 Schools & Parents as Teachers
Cedar-Vernon County Genealogy Society
Osage Prairie YMCA
VCHS/ Bushwhacker Museum
B.B. K-9 School LLC
Healthy Nevada
Precision Coffee Company
Community Outreach
Missouri University Extension Office
Kiwanis Club of Greater Vernon County
City of Nevada Community Center
AAUW
Daughter of the American Revolution (DAR)

Nevada Public Library

FINANCAL SNAPSHOT



WHAT DOES IT COST TO RUN THE LIBRARY?



EXPENDITURES FY26

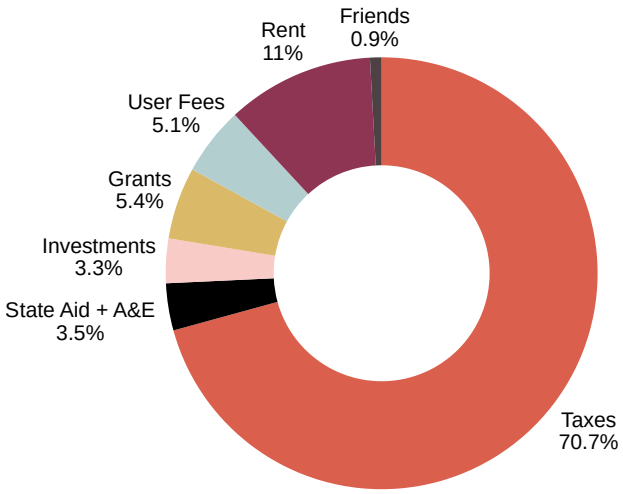
- Personnel $ 226,390.37
- Library Collection $41,336.55
- Operations $ 20,155.88
- Building $ 43,880.23

TOTAL EXPENDITURES

$331,763.03

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?





REVENUE SOURCES FY26

- Property Tax $ 263,191.80
- State Aid + A&E $ 13,104.93
- Investments $12,401.43
- Grants $20,053.15
- Fees $ 19,069.15
- Rent $ 41,035.00
- Friends Sales & Gifts $ 3,221.86

TOTAL REVENUE

$372,077.32

GENERAL OPERATING FUND

7/25	Beginning Balance	$554,327.51
6/26	Ending Balance	$567,341.14

Nevada Public Library

SERVICES & TECHNOLOGY

HOW ARE YOU USING YOUR LIBRARY?

517 NEW CARDHOLDERS JOINED NPL

5,083 ACTIVE NPL CARDHOLDERS

20,904 VISITS TO THE LIBRARY

2,449 PUBLIC PC SESSIONS

7,985 FREE WI-FI SESSIONS

8,215 LIBRARY WEBSITE VISITS

16,586 INTERACTIONS W/ SOCIAL MEDIA

366,977 NPL SOCIAL MEDIA VIEWS

89 COMMUNITY ROOM RESERVATIONS

Nevada Public Library *Foundation*



Sandra Thomas - President
B.G. Wolfe - Vice-President
Wayne Reinert - Treasurer
Jodi Polk, Director - Secretary

Linda Catron
Allison Ferry
Candice Moore
Susan Swearingen

Our Mission:

The Nevada Public Library Foundation is a non-profit organization whose mission is to solicit, receive, hold and administer gifts, and to do such other lawful acts and undertake such other enterprises for the literacy and educational purposes exclusively for the support and benefit of the Nevada Public Library.

Our Goals:

- engender public support and use of the Nevada Public Library;
- generate and develop special projects & program funding;
- facilitate and expand community collaborations;
- support broadly-based community learning.

Nevada Public Library