

North Bellmore Public Library
1551 Newbridge Road
North Bellmore, NY 11710



Sustainable Libraries Initiative Certification

North Bellmore Public Library



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**



ABOUT NBPL

The North Bellmore Public Library, established in the early 1960's and most recently renovated in 2019, is a modern and sustainable 20,078 square-foot facility that serves the residents of North Bellmore and beyond. Equipped with New York State's first and only Certified Sensory Nook® Pod, the facility boasts a vibrant array of offerings beyond reading materials for both children and adults alike.

From a dedicated community space for events to an innovation room equipped with modern conveniences, the North Bellmore Public Library is committed to serving the vast needs of the North Bellmore community and beyond.

Mission

The mission of the North Bellmore Public Library is to provide equal access to quality resources and services to inspire continuous learning, personal enrichment and professional growth.

Vision

The North Bellmore Public Library aims to provide a center for information and discovery through innovative programming, robust collections and accessible services. The Library is the welcoming heart of our community where all can come to learn, discover, create, and connect.

NBPL AT A GLANCE

2022 Annual Report

Population: 26,724

Annual Visitors: 31, 318

Total Print Materials: 76,600

Total Electronic Materials: 138,985

Annual Total Hours: 3,266

Total Programs: 701

Total Program Attendance: 11,073

2023 Annual Report

Population: 26,724

Annual Visitors: 58,691

Total Print Materials: 74,376

Total Electronic Materials: 157,268

Annual Total Hours: 3,266

Total Programs: 869

Total Program Attendance: 15,018

Sustainable Libraries Initiative

The North Bellmore Public Library proudly joined the Sustainable Libraries Certification Program (SLCP) in January 2023. This program offered a comprehensive framework to enhance our library's dedication to environmental stewardship, economic sustainability, and social equity.

Over two years, our team worked diligently to review, develop, and implement innovative initiatives aimed at fostering a more sustainable future. This presentation highlights some of the results of our efforts.



Sustainable Libraries Outline

INITIAL

NBPL joined the Sustainable Libraries Initiative (SLI) in January 2023.

Section A

GETTING STARTED

Section B

OUTDOOR SPACES

Section C

INDOOR SPACES

Section D

TRANSPORTATION

Section E

ENERGY

Section F

WATER

Section G

MATERIALS

Section H

COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Section I

SOCIAL COHESION

Section J

RESILIENCE PLANNING

Section K

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Section L

COLLECTIONS

Section M

FINAL

SUBMISSION



SECTION A

GETTING STARTED

First Generation Sustainability Team



The First-Generation Sustainability Team was formed in May 2023, and spans multiple departments and roles. Our first priority was reviewing the Sustainable Action item Plan, and evaluating our current library in relation to these action items. New and innovative ideas were shared.

Members (from left to right)

James Luberto, Josh Firer, Carly Hablenko, Jessica Tymecki, Mackenzie Weis, and Eric Gaertner.



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**



Second Generation Sustainability Team



The Second-Generation Sustainability Team was established in July 2023, bringing together a diverse group from various departments, including Adult Programming, Children's Services, Facilities, Administration, and Public Relations. United by a shared commitment to sustainability, our team tackled the Action Item List and began implementing strategies to enhance the library's environmental responsibility and sustainability practices.

Members (from left to right)

Josh Firer, James Luberto, Lauren Rosenberg, Eric Gaertner, Mackenzie Weis, Carly Hablenko, and Jessica Tymecki.



SECTION B

OUTDOOR SPACES



PLANTS



NBPL has a mixture of plants, native plants, and trees on property, which we continue to add to for both beautification and to promote biodiversity.





Annuals - 9/11 Garden



Butterfly Bush



Emerald Green Arborvitae



Blue Star Juniper



Fig Tree

MINIMAL OUTDOOR LIGHT POLLUTION

- All of our outside grounds have LED lights for pathway lighting and safety standards, with minimal light emissions.
- The path lighting around our building is equipped with a photocell lamp switch that activates at dusk. This lighting system includes a timed sensor and is programmed to align with sunrise and sunset, ensuring it operates only when necessary.

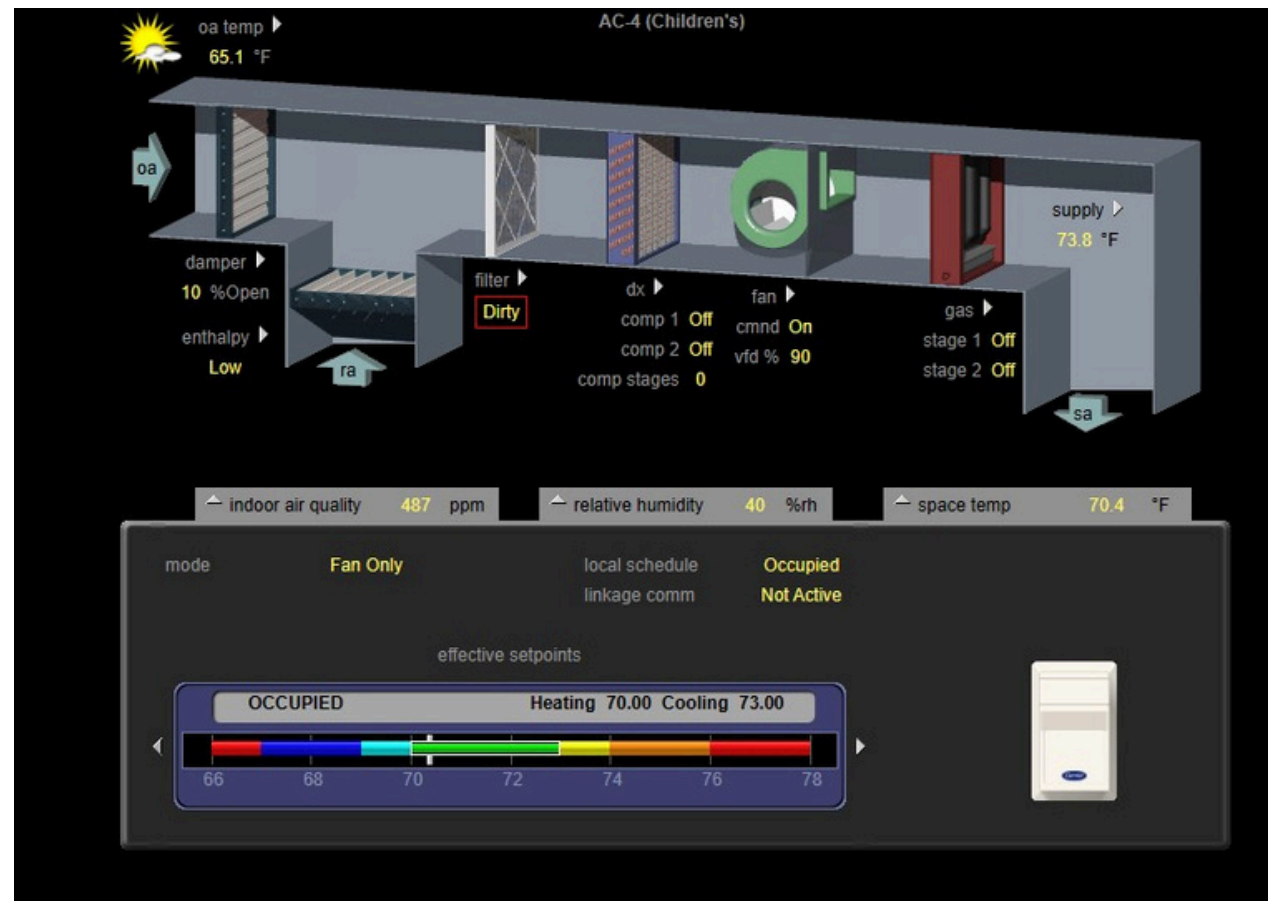




SECTION C

INDOOR SPACES

INDOOR AIR QUALITY



Damper Control

Dehumidifier



NBPL currently has an Indoor Air Quality Plan. We clean our filters on all HVAC units on a quarterly basis. Our HVAC building management system (BMS) allows us to control our dampers and increase/decrease outdoor air. As an added procedure to control excess moisture, we use dehumidifiers with filters to absorb air pollutants. The dehumidifiers are cleaned daily.

CLEANING PRODUCT PROTOCOLS

NBPL currently uses the 3M Flow Chemical Dispenser.
The dispenser and chemicals used have a Green Seal label.
All packaging used is also 25% post-consumer recycled content.



Improved Cleaning Chemical Dilution

Minimize chemical use and reduce waste with improved dilution accuracy.



Green Seal™ Certified

All of the 3M™ Cleaning Concentrates that are Green Seal Certified are concentrated to maximize value and cut packaging waste.



Recycled Packaging for Cleaning Concentrates

3M is proud to package many of its cleaning concentrates in bottles made with 25% post-consumer recycled content.



LEED Certification Help

Using 3M™ Chemical Management Solutions can help contribute to LEED certification.

SEED LIBRARY



NBPL created a Seed Library to foster a more sustainable environment (and share a love of gardening) for our community.

CHICK INCUBATION



NBPL partnered with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County and hatched baby chicks. Our young patrons had a front row seat as our eggs moved from incubation to hatching. All baby chicks were returned to the Suffolk County farm.

INDOOR PLANT LIFE



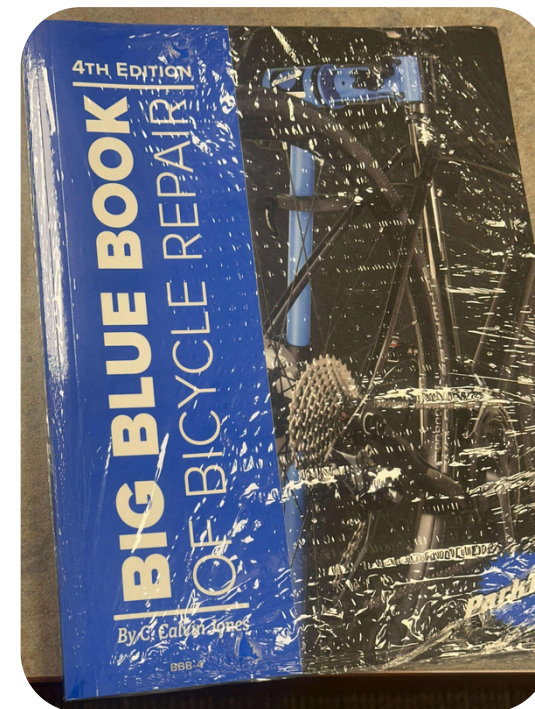


SECTION D

TRANSPORTATION

BIKE RACK AND REPAIR

The North Bellmore Library currently has two bike racks on the property.



We purchased a professional Bike Repair Kit from Park Tool for patron use.



NBPL has introduced a remote policy and installed video and audio equipment for programs that wish to use Zoom. This aims to help reduce our carbon footprint.



VIDEO CONFERENCING SOLUTIONS

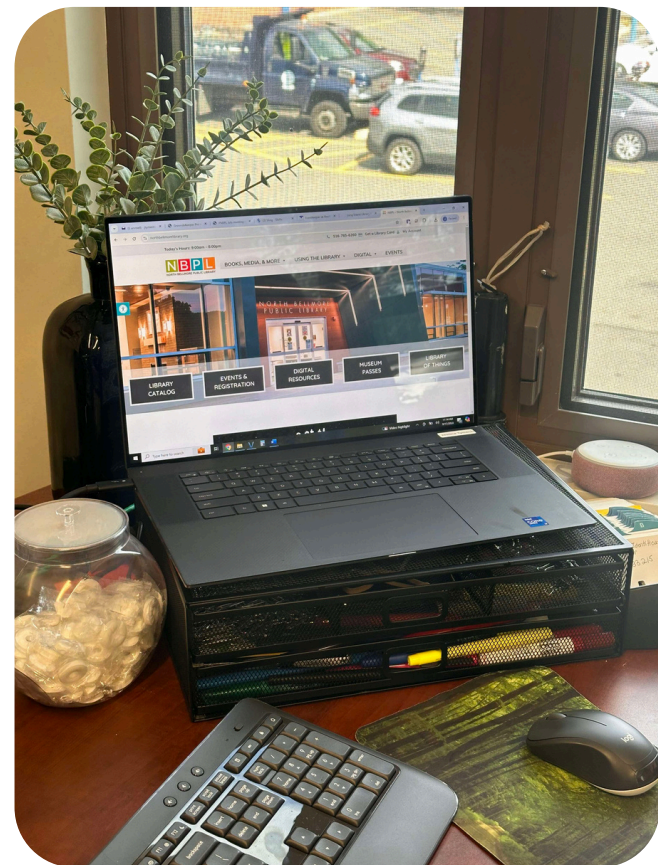
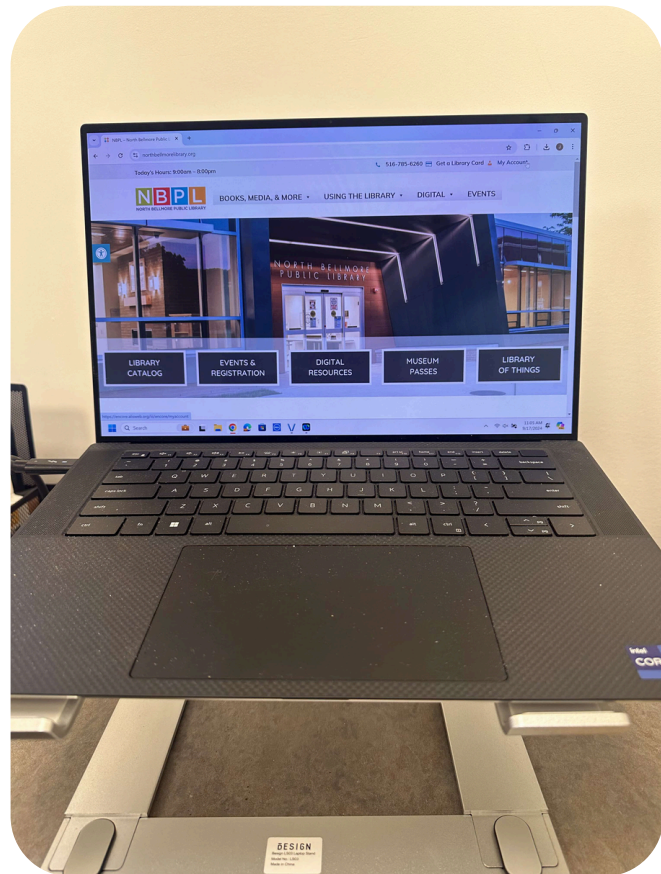


SECTION E **ENERGY**

ENERGY CONSUMPTION STEPS



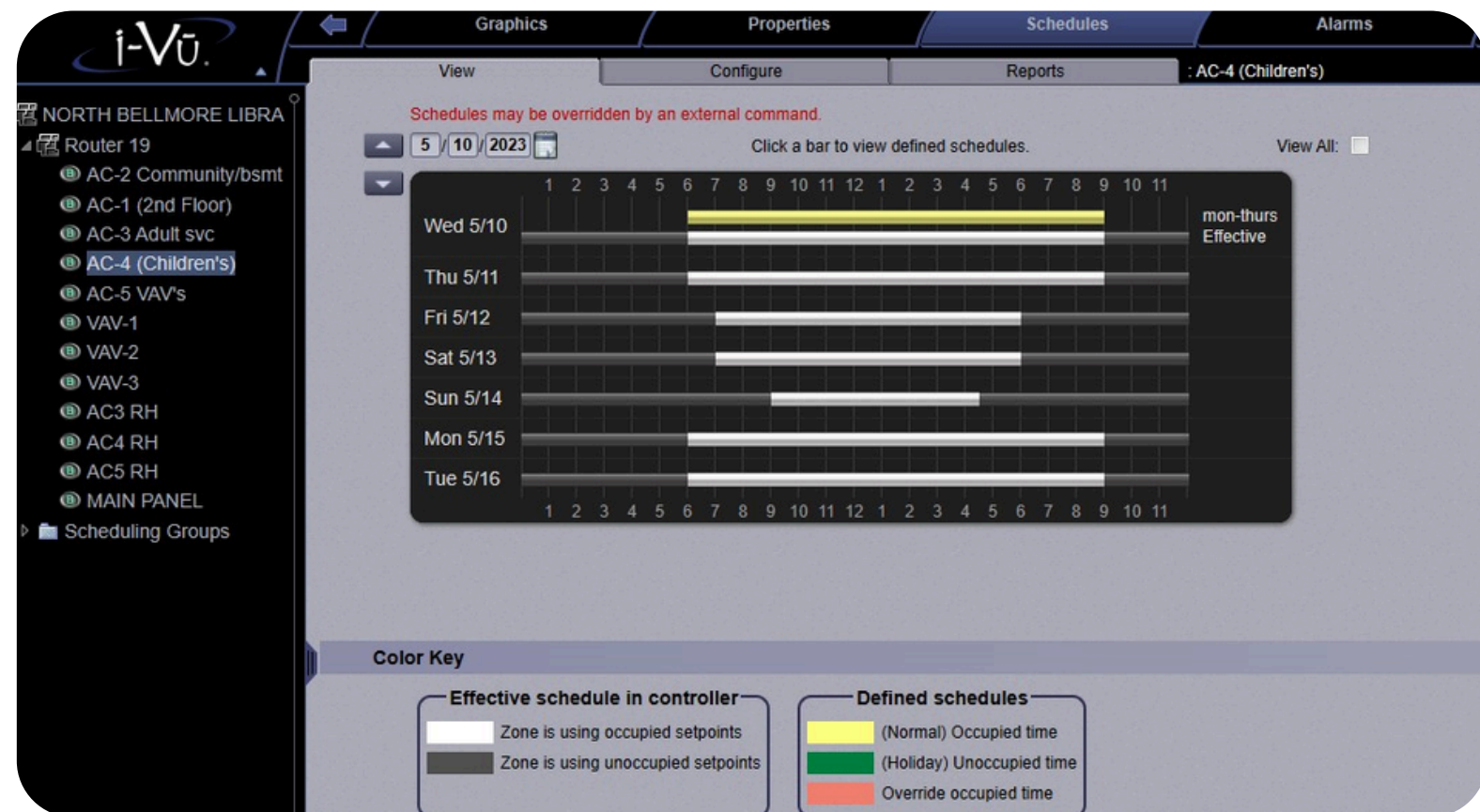
- All staff are responsible for turning off lights in office and meeting spaces that are not being used.
- ENERGY STAR12 rated equipment is purchased whenever possible and economically feasible.
- Breakroom refrigerators are set between 35°- 38°F and freezers between 0 - 5°F.
- All workstations, including monitors, are shut down at the end of the workday, except where needed.
- Technology and computers use energy saving settings. Sleep/standby mode is utilized for equipment, including computers and copiers after a specified time of non-use.



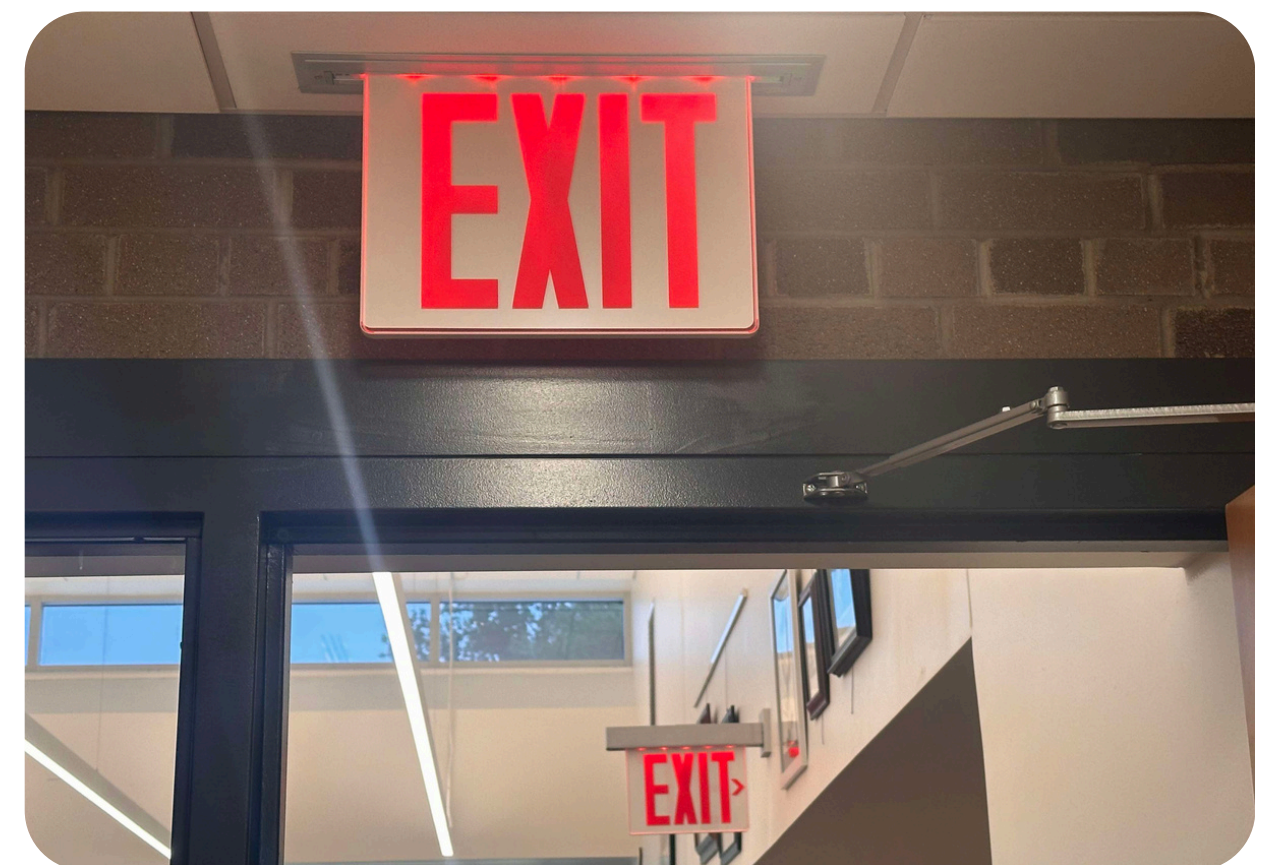
Library Laptops



Copier Central Location for Multi-staff Usage



Programmable Thermostats



Exit Signage

LIGHTING

All of the light switches in our building have timers and occupancy sensors. Aside from turning off when not needed, they also have light level options.

We offer half light, full light, reading, relax, and dimmed - all of which provide ample light for designated activities.



NBPL has timers and occupancy sensors in 97% of the building. Our timers are set to turn off when we close the building. They will turn on with motion and turn off after 10 minutes. We have photocell timers on our exterior lighting which go on as the sun sets.



SECTION F **WATER**

B-HYVE WATERING TIMER SYSTEM

- Automated irrigation system.
- Rain sensor that checks the local weather and adjusts the schedule on its own.



DEHUMIDIFIER AND REUSE OF WATER



- Use several Dehumidifiers throughout the library building.
- When the water is full, it is used to water plants throughout the interior and exterior of the building.

SENSOR-ACTIVATED FIXTURES



- Toilets and sinks are sensor-activated.
- Leaks are currently manually monitored by staff.



WATER DISPOSAL

NBPL utilized a sanitary sewer in our custodial closet. All wastewater generated from cleaning and upkeep is disposed of in this sink.

WATER BOTTLE FILLER



- Bottle Filler features sanitary no-touch sensor activation with automatic 20-second shut-off timer. Drain system eliminates standing water.
- Quench bottleless water coolers reduce plastic waste and the pollution of water delivery by filtering building drinking water.



SECTION G **MATERIALS**

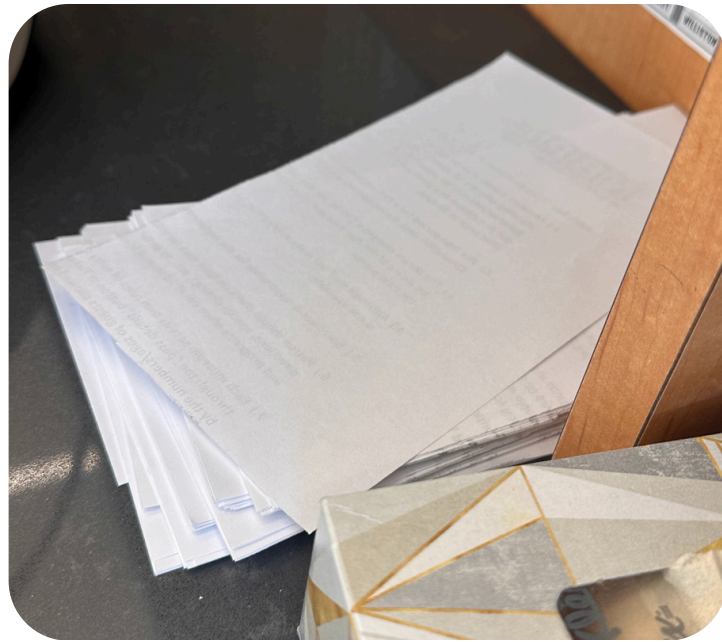
ENVIRONMENTAL-FRIENDLY SUPPLIES



NBPL purchases and uses the following:

- Toilet paper with 100% recycled fiber
- Paper towels with 100% recycled fiber
- Business cards through Canva, which are printed on sustainably-sourced paper
- Refillable filament cartridges when using our 3D Printer
- Reusable batteries
- Erasable wall calendars
- BPA-free receipt paper

REUSE & RECYCLYE



Reuse Office Paper



Recycling Bins for Patrons & Staff



Reusable Bags



Recycling Ink & Toner Cartridges

INVENTORY



NBPL applies asset tags to technology items and conducts inventory checks for office, cleaning, program, and other supplies. All purchases must be approved and processed through a checks-and-balances system, including invoices and confirmations involving a series of staff members.



SECTION H
COLLECTIVE IMPACT

LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

NBPL created our first-ever partnership with local businesses to offer special incentives and discounts to library cardholders.

September is **National Library Card Sign-Up Month!** To celebrate, NBPL is proud to announce our first-ever partnership with local businesses to offer **special discounts for our library cardholders.**

Elsie Lane Wing House
2819 Jerusalem Ave, North Bellmore
5% off check with valid NBPL card

The Clean Machine
1199 Newbridge Road, North Bellmore
10% off any purchase on Wednesdays

The Original Salpino Italian Food Market
1540 Newbridge Road, North Bellmore
10% off your order
*Excludes sales and meal packages.
Cannot be combined with other offers.
Valid until 9/1/25.*

Present a valid NBPL card during September 2024 to enjoy these benefits!



NBPL regularly holds meetings where the public can meet with their Senator, Legislator, and Department of Assessment.

June 2024: Senator Steve Rhoads held mobile office hours at NBPL to meet with residents and listen to their concerns.



MOBILE OFFICE HOURS



STEVE RHOADS
NYS SENATOR

NYS Senator Steve Rhoads' Mobile Office Hours
Tuesday, June 18 at 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Appointments required, but walk-ins welcome if time permits.
To make an appointment:
Please call Senator Rhoads' District Office at 516-882-0630.

Senator Steve Rhoads wants to hear what local and state issues are most important to YOU - the people he represents in the New York State Senate. Please join Senator Rhoads for a one-on-one meeting to discuss a variety of topics and get to know your local Senator.



WEDNESDAY,
JULY 31 FROM
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Nassau County Homeowner Exemptions Liaison Program

Department of Assessment staff will provide individual assistance to any homeowner who would like to file for his or her Veterans, Senior Citizen, Cold War Veterans, Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers, or Limited Income Disability exemption. Homeowners who were not enrolled in the STAR Program prior to January 2, 2015 must apply for STAR with NYS State (Telephone: (518) 457-2036 or online at www8.tax.ny.gov/STRP/strpStart). PLEASE MAKE COPIES of your 2023 Federal and State Income Tax Returns, along with other required documentation listed on the exemption application, PRIOR TO THE PROGRAM. Exemption Applications for the 2025-26 Property Tax Year must be received by JANUARY 2, 2025. For further information regarding property tax exemptions or any other assessment question, please contact the Department of Assessment at (516) 571-1500 or email NCAssessor@nassaucountry.gov.

The Nassau County Clerk's Mobile Office will also be on hand to provide real-time County Clerk services. They offer certified copies of land records, notary services, and a Veterans Recognition Program with free Veterans Discount Cards.



July 2024: Department of Assessment provided individual assistance to any homeowner who would like to file for his or her Veterans, Senior Citizen, Cold War Veterans, Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers, or Limited Income Disability exemption. The Nassau County Clerk's Mobile Office were also on hand to provide real-time County Clerk services.

PARTNERING WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT

VOTER REGISTRATION PROGRAM

**are you registered
TO VOTE?**

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

**NATIONAL VOTER
REGISTRATION DAY**

N|B|P|L

**#VOTEREADY
AT YOUR LIBRARY**

**If not, come to the NBPL
on 9/17 and register!**

NBPL held a
Voter Registration Day.

NOT-FOR-PROFIT PARTNERSHIPS



NBPL has partnered with **Long Island Coalition for the Homeless** and has periodic donation drives. Our latest coat drive collected gently used coats, resulting in over 400 pounds or 300 coats donated.



NBPL partnered with **Birthday Wishes Long Island** to collect and donate toys, aiming to make sure every child, regardless of their situation, can celebrate their birthday.



NBPL has collected more than 1,000 pounds of soft film plastics and packaging in a 12-month span, and were awarded a **Trex®** furniture bench to our library.

GotSneakers:

NBPL is collecting and donating used sneakers for recycling purposes.





Neighborhood Forest
giving trees to children

NBPL partners with
Neighborhood Forest
to supply free trees to children
and families.



 **New York Blood Center**

NBPL regularly holds Blood
Drives in collaboration with the
New York Blood Center.

BLOOD DRIVE

DONATIONS SAVE LIVES

NBPL

Friday, October 25, 2024

10:00AM - 4:00PM

call **1-800-933-BLOOD**
to make an appointment
or *book online*

<https://tinyurl.com/NBPLblood>

North Bellmore Public Library
1551 Newbridge Rd.
Community Room
North Bellmore, NY 11710



SECTION I

SOCIAL COHESION

COHESIVE PROGRAMS

NBPL brings our community together, offering a broad range of programs designed to meet the needs of our diverse community of all ages and interests.

The Great Give Back: Park Cleanup at Forest City Park

NBPL invited community members of all ages to join us at nearby Forest City Park for a fun family park cleanup!



Crayon Initiative

NBPL collected old, used crayons from the community. Teens sorted the crayons and we shipped them to The Crayon Initiative, an organization that transforms them into brand-new crayons for children in hospitals.



1-on-1 Technology Help

NBPL staff helps patrons with technology questions, bridging the divide of the digital world. Whether its navigating gadgets, troubleshooting software, or just curious about the latest tech trends, our knowledgeable team is here to help.





Outdoor Concert



Outdoor Movie



Park Clean-Up



Retro Video Game Night



Lecture: The Jewish Lower East Side



STEAM Station



Paul the Plant Man



Mediterranean Cooking



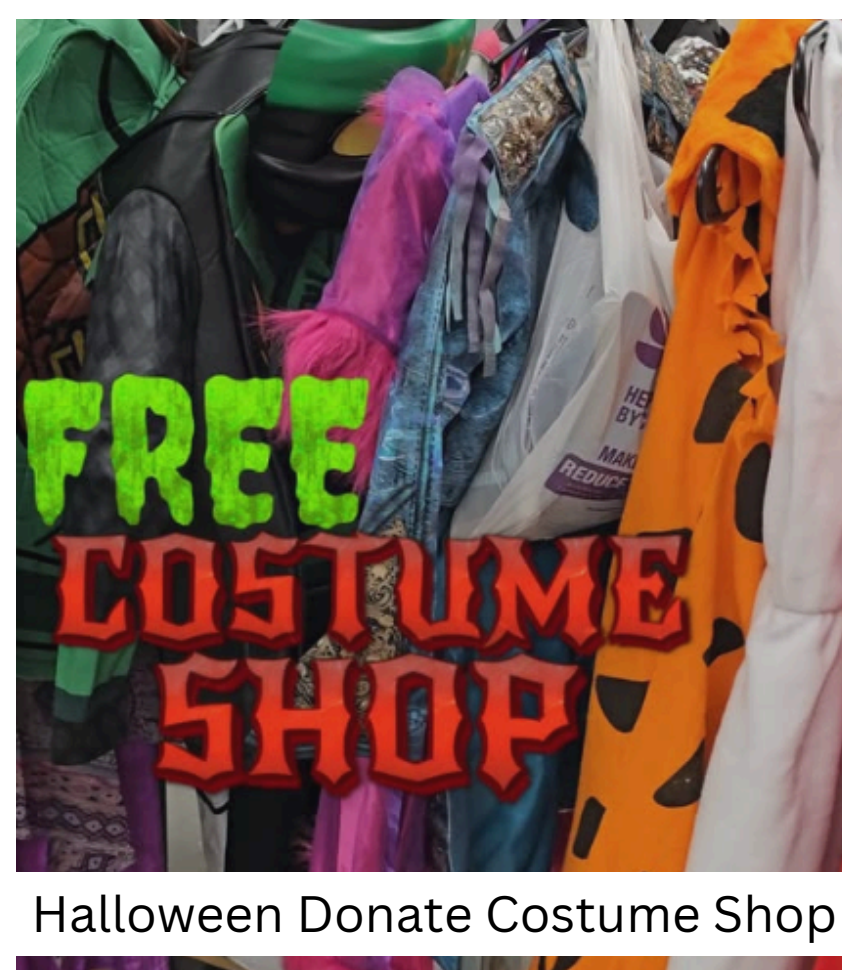
Mephram Student Art Exhibit



Coding Club



Lunar New Year



Halloween Donate Costume Shop



Recycle Craft Cleanup

SENSORY NOOK

Thanks to a community revitalization project (CRP) grant supported by Nassau County Legislator Michael Giangregorio, NBPL is the first and only public library in New York State with a IBCCES-certified autism resource Sensory Nook® Pod!

Originally designed to create emotionally intelligent workspaces for one-to-one and small-group tasks, Nook found that adding some enhancements created a space that could greatly improve mood, reduce challenging behavior, and lower anxiety levels.



EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

NBPL Staff Spotlight: Meet Raymond Blank, Library Clerk

You may recognize him as one of the staple friendly faces behind the NBPL's Circulation Desk, but Raymond Blank hasn't always worked in the library world. In fact, the full-time library clerk has held positions in various industries over the course of his professional career – including two decades in investment banking; several years in professional painting; and serving as a loving “Manny” (male nanny) to a local family that he has known for over 50 years.

Despite a well-rounded portfolio of professional experiences, Ray says his current role at the NBPL has been a highlight of his career.

“I love my job!” said Ray, who has worked at the NBPL for three-and-a-half years.

Ray's day-to-day responsibilities are vast. They include processing, stamping, scanning, and labeling scores of new materials for the NBPL's growing book collection, which is no easy feat. But the true highlight of his workdays, he says, is being on the desk, where he greets and interacts with library patrons.

“I enjoy talking to the patrons. I see people from high school who are now visiting the library with their grandchildren. It's just wonderful!” he said.

Although Ray is continuously impressed by patrons' knowledge and understanding of the NBPL's vast services, one of the most helpful resources he recommends is the Nassau Public Libraries app. This one-stop-shop mobile app is beneficial for storing library card information. Patrons can use the free app to search the library's catalog for books, music, and movies; renew and request items; view what they have checked out and placed on hold; check the library's event calendar; and access online services including Libby's e-books, museum passes, and more.

“It's got everything one would need all in one place!”

When he's not at the library, the self-proclaimed “college basketball junkie” treasures spending time with his wife, who was also his high school sweetheart, and their three adult children.



NBPL includes a **Staff Spotlight** in our bi-monthly newsletter, highlighting the achievements of staff both inside and outside of the library.



SECTION J

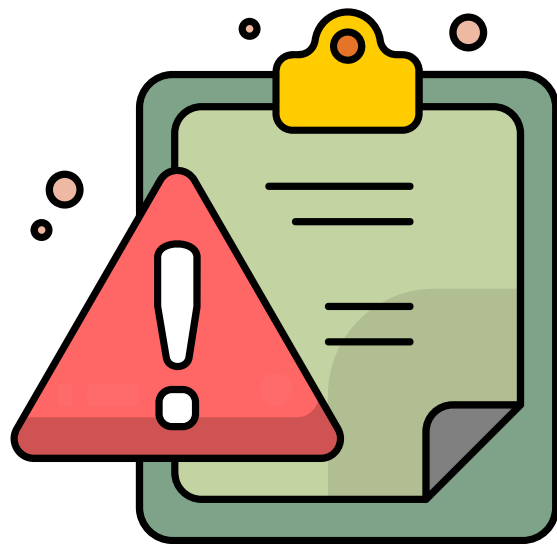
RESILIENCE PLANNING

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE PLAN



NORTH BELLMORE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan



NBPL's Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan outline protocols for safeguarding patrons, staff, and the property during emergencies, including inclement weather, power outages, or other crises. It integrates guidelines specific to New York State disaster preparedness requirements to ensure safety and continuity of essential services.

COMMUNITY DISASTER RECOVERY SUPPORT SYSTEM

CERT TRAINING (NASSAU COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT)

Starting Wednesday, September 18th, NBPL will be hosting Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training through the office of Nassau County Office of Emergency Management. Attendance is required at all seven weekly classes to complete the course. The CERT program is a nationally supported, locally implemented initiative that teaches people how to better prepare themselves for hazards that may affect their communities. Since 1993, CERT has trained the public in basic disaster response skills such as team organization, disaster medical operations, fire safety, and light search and rescue. The ability for CERT volunteers to perform these activities frees up professional responders to focus their efforts on more complex, essential, and critical tasks.

 September 18,
September 25,
October 1,
October 9,
October 16,
October 23,
October 30

 6:30 PM

To Register
Scan QR Code
or visit
[www.nassaucountyny.gov/
3250/CERT-Training](http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/3250/CERT-Training)



 citizen corps
UNITED COMMUNITIES
EMPOWERING THE NATION

NBPL
NORTH BELLMORE PUBLIC LIBRARY
1551 Newbridge Road
North Bellmore, NY 11710
(516) 785-6260

The Nassau County Office of Emergency Management hosted CERT classes, where volunteers received comprehensive training on how to effectively prepare for and respond to disasters as part of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.



FIRST RESPONDERS ENGAGEMENT EVENT

“Touch A Truck”

We hosted a "Touch a Truck" Event on Saturday, November 2nd, 2024. This free family-friendly event was designed to allow children to explore, climb, and touch first responder vehicles, including Fire Department, Emergency Service, Police, and Sanitation.



STAFF TRAINING



Staff participates in Narcan training

NBPL staff receives CPR, AED, and Narcan training, equipping them with the essential skills to respond effectively to medical emergencies and potentially save lives.



SECTION K

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

FINANCIAL CONTROLS

NBPL adheres to internal financial controls, including a checks-and-balances system of ordering.

Purchases include invoices and purchase orders, with multiple staff members checking accuracy of pricing and inventory. Any monetary amount above a threshold must include bids and approval by NBPL's Board of Trustees.



ISSUED TO

North Bellmore Public Library
1551 Newbridge Road
(516)-785-6260

COMPANY NAME



North Bellmore Public Library
1551 Newbridge Road
North Bellmore, NY 11710

Purchase Order

PO No:

Date:

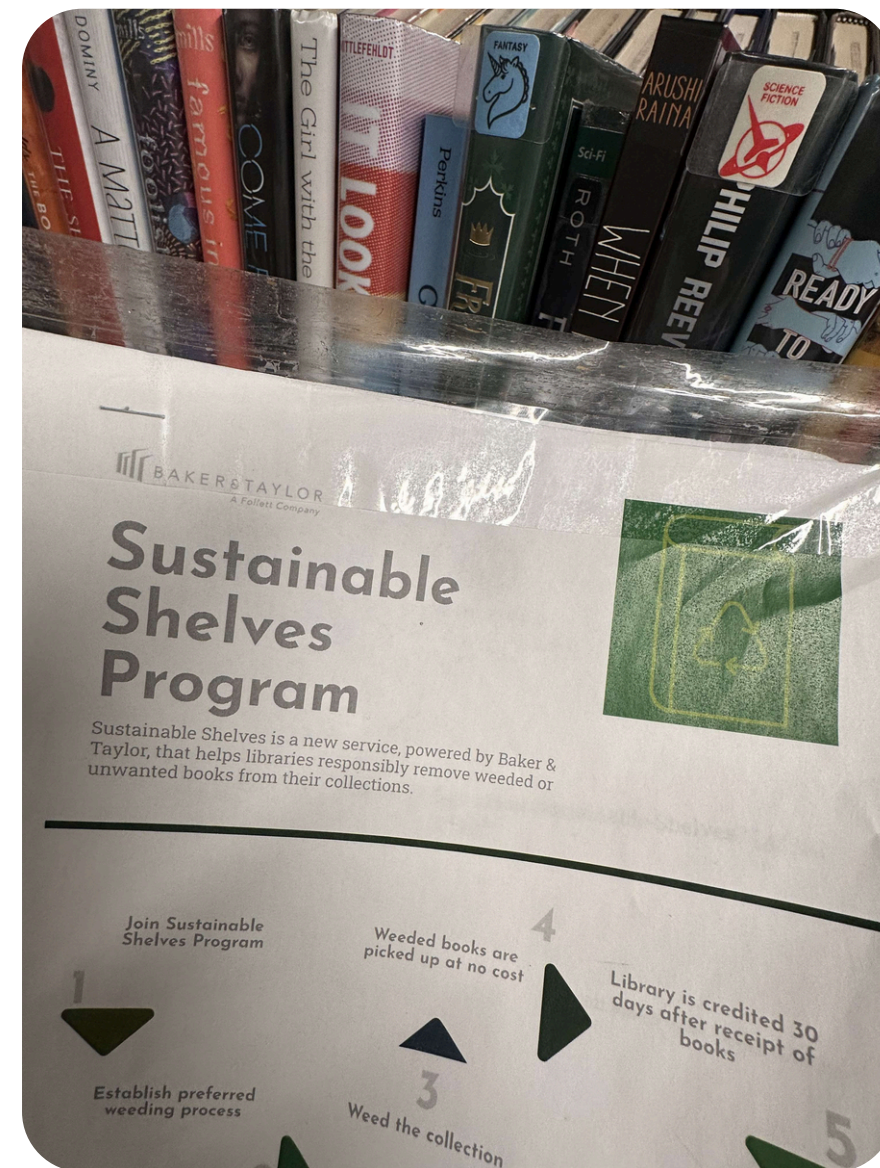
PO Status:



SECTION L **COLLECTIONS**

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Whenever possible, items withdrawn from our collection are donated to Baker & Taylor's Sustainable Shelves to reduce environmental impact, or Better World Books, an organization that collects materials to fund world literacy.





FUTURE PLANS

Establish a pollinator garden to support bees and honey production.

Pilot a seedling library to promote community gardening.

Further develop and implement diverse, innovative programs to engage the community.

Conduct regular policy reviews to ensure alignment with sustainability practices.

Strengthen and expand collaborations with local partners.



THANK YOU

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the incredible staff of the North Bellmore Public Library for their dedication and hard work.

A special thank you to the NBPL Board of Trustees for their unwavering support and guidance throughout this journey.

We are deeply grateful to our Sustainability Mentor, Debbie Engelhardt, and the staff behind the Sustainable Library Initiative for sharing their expertise and passion, which have inspired us to make meaningful changes.

Most importantly, we want to extend our sincere thanks to the North Bellmore community for being such an integral part of our journey.

Your support means the world to us.

We look forward to continuing to serve you in the future.



NORTH BELLMORE PUBLIC LIBRARY



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

***For more information, including resources, please visit:
www.northbellmorelibrary.org/Sustainability***