It has been said that public library use increases during economic downturns. That was certainly true at the Canton Public Library in 2008! We set a one-day checkout record this year. You checked out more than 12,000 items over the course of a single day — an average of 1,014 items each hour. That was certainly true at the Canton Public Library in 2008!

We've worked to be good stewards of our environment, setting an example by eliminating plastic bag and moving to library-branded canvas bags; expanding our “green resources” sections to provide you with energy and money-saving information; providing Kill-a-Watt devices that you may checkout to monitor your home energy use; and continuing our Abitibi paper recycling program.

We partnered with Canton Township Leisure Services on 100 Days to Health, and continuing our Abitibi paper recycling program.

Everyone in Canton is struggling to do more with less, and your library is no exception. Through the hard work of staff, increased partnerships, and old-fashioned belt-tightening, we are positioned to continue to serve you with excellence despite these tough economic times. The Library Board of Trustees voted in Fall 2008 to reduce the taxes you pay for library services, and will continue to lead the way in demonstrating careful stewardship of public tax dollars. We remain committed to the library's long-term sustainability through our Endowment Fund, which in 2008 surpassed the $300,000 mark thanks to $35,000 — largely book sale proceeds — contributed by the Friends of the Library.

The Friends of the Canton Public Library is a nonprofit volunteer group made up of members of the community who support the library's goals and services. They advocate for the library and raise community awareness. Through their efforts, the Friends bridge the gap between the library's needs and its ability to fund such purchases as computer equipment, and ongoing equipment and materials needs. They also purchase needed equipment and materials and donate generously to the Library. In 2008, the Friends made donations of over $3,000 to the Library.

The Library Board of Trustees governs the Canton Public Library. The Board is responsible for setting policy and keeping the library true to its mission. It is made up of community members who are Canton residents. Canton residents are encouraged to attend the monthly meetings, held at the library the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m.
Circulation increase of 11.3% from 2007.

1450 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, Michigan 48188
734-397-0999

Circulated 1,796,819 items.
Issued 8,835 new Canton Public Library cards.

New one-day circulation record: 12,167 items checked out on June 16, 2008.

“A N N U A L  R E P O R T

Partnerships

Worked with P-CEP high schools for One Book, One Park book talk for teens.
Partnered with first grade classes to offer library orientation for 1,244 students.
Participated in the Museum Adventure PASS Partnership with Macy’s and the Cultural Alliance of Southeastern Michigan to issue nearly 3,000 free passes to museums and attractions.
Collaborated with the University of Michigan for Family Science Adventure Programs.
Worked with Canton Township and the multicultural committee for Martin Luther King Jr. event.
Partnered with Canton Observer for MLK Essay Contest.
Business Users Workshop collaboration with Canton Chamber.
Partnership with Plymouth District Library to promote tutor.com, Learn-A-Test and other resources.

STUFF WE’VE DONE

You can place holds on all available items.
You can check out as many DVDs as you’d like.
Added 300 additional storytime sessions.
Expanded program offerings for grandparents, children, tweens, seniors.
Accredited a Kill-A-Watt energy device.
Added green resources to provide energy and money-saving information.

You can Book a Librarian for a one-on-one appointment.
You can check out as many DVDs as you’d like.
You can place holds on all available items.

Added Book-Kit-in-a-Bag for children and tweens.
Expanded video gaming collection to include Wii games, Xbox, PS3 and Nintendo DS.
Continued paper recycling program for Library and public use.

Borrowed 8,550 items from other libraries for our users.

Expanded Summer Reading for all age groups resulting in increased participation, including 900 adults.

Upgraded public computer software to Microsoft 2007.
Reduced library millage rate.

Patron Comments

I wanted to take a moment to express my admiration and delight: bustling crowds of diverse age and race, remarkable collections of books and media, welcoming environments for study, leisure, and quiet conversation. This is really an exceptional place.

I just wanted to let you know how much we love the Canton Library. It is very well run, organized, clean and JUST PLAIN GREAT! Keep up the good work!

Just a note of appreciation to the finest library, librarians and staff. We need you more than ever in these difficult times.

I find this library as magical for me as I do for our grandchildren. There’s always more to discover. Thank you.

The Canton Public Library is as important as the police and fire departments.

I am fortunate to live in Canton and have the BEST LIBRARY of anyone I know. I am always bragging about it.

Thank you for doing such a great job.

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Thank you. You are the most efficient organization that I know of. You certainly put airlines, hotels and rental cars to shame. Great job!

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