

Marquette County Public Libraries

REPORT CARD

**Endeavor Public Library
Ethel Everhard Memorial Library, Westfield
Montello Public Library
Neshkoro Public Library
Oxford Public Library
Packwaukee Public Library**

**Long Range Plan of Library Service
2002 – 2006**

REPORT CARD

Marquette County Long Range Plan of Library Service 2002 – 2006

GOAL:	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	FULFILLS REQUIREMENTS	OUTSTANDING
Priority I		√	
<p>Libraries in Marquette County consider services to children and families to be of primary importance.</p> <p>Recent research shows that participation in library summer reading programs helps children retain and improve reading skills over the summer break and all Marquette County libraries have active summer programs. Most of the libraries have regular children's story hours during the school year. The libraries have held annual library card sign-up campaigns to increase use.</p>			
Priority II			√
<p>The libraries in Marquette County will become the center of community life.</p> <p>The libraries have made good progress in this area. All have areas where organizations and agencies can post notices and distribute literature and some have meeting rooms and display areas which are available for use by community organizations. Endeavor, Oxford and Westfield libraries have invested extra effort in their local history and genealogy collections. Montello library hosts regular poetry readings. All libraries have computers for members of the public to use. Some of the libraries sponsor or provide space for community classes and workshops.</p>			

GOAL:	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	FULFILLS REQUIREMENTS	OUTSTANDING
Priority III	√		

Libraries will play a lead role in providing access to information technology and will promote information literacy.

Thanks to the generosity of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation all libraries have shown improvement in this area; each library received 2 new computers in early 2003. All the Marquette county libraries now have computers available for patrons to use for word processing and Internet access. Through Winnefox Library System all residents of Marquette County have access to accurate, reliable, and up-to-date information in online databases which can be searched from home, office, or school. The libraries are scheduling computer replacement regularly to ensure that obsolete computers do not prevent residents from full access to resources.

Priority IV	√		
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Libraries will work with schools and families that home school as partners in the educational process.

The libraries have made some progress in reaching some of the goals in this area, but have been held back by a shortage of staff. They are beginning to work closer with the schools to better support the education program. Libraries welcome visits by classes and some visit local schools to present library programs. Homeschooling is increasing and in 2002 Winnefox had a program to help libraries better serve homeschoolers.

GOAL:	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT	FULFILLS REQUIREMENTS	OUTSTANDING
Priority V		√	

Libraries will serve all citizens of the county, including those with special needs.

Libraries made several improvements in their service to persons with special needs. On behalf of member libraries Winnefox administered two Federally funded LSTA grants in 2002 to improve access for users with special needs. One provided special hardware and software to make computer use easier for those with disabilities. Another purchased materials for Spanish-speaking youth. Computers received from the Gates Foundation come with software to assist Spanish speakers and persons with disabilities. Special needs classes visit the Westfield & Neshkoro libraries regularly. Montello library has sponsored sign language classes.

Priority VI		√	
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County libraries will be proactive in meeting changing needs within the county.

Libraries have continued to work with the Literacy Coalition to assist residents wishing to improve their reading ability. As homeschooling becomes more popular the libraries are increasing their services to homeschoolers. Libraries are responding to the increase in Spanish-speaking residents by providing more resources in Spanish.

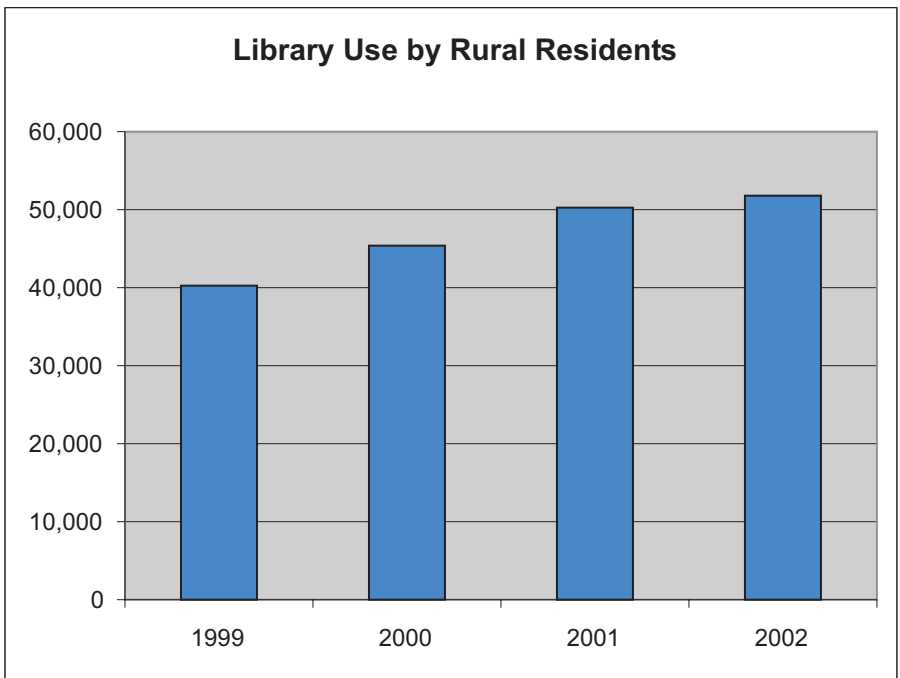
Priority VII			√
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Libraries will facilitate lifelong learning for all residents of the county.

Through the county libraries and Winnefox, residents of Marquette County have access to a wide range of materials in a variety of formats: print, recorded sound and video, and online.

Library Use by Rural Residents

As use of Marquette County libraries has increased we see a corresponding rise in use by rural residents. Between 1999 and 2002 the number of items checked out to rural residents rose from 40,292 to 51,992, an increase of 29%. In Winnefox as a whole, use by rural residents increased by 14% over the same period.



These increases reflect library use generally. In Winnefox member libraries and around Wisconsin library is showing record increases.

Library System Circulation Per Capita

Population: 316,363
Circulation: 3,959,955
Circulation per Capita: 11.8



Winnefox Library System 2002

Libraries in Winnefox Library System have the 2nd highest circulation per capita of all 17 public library systems in Wisconsin!

There were 475,860 more items checked out in 2002 than 2001 – a 13.7% increase.

