



Sustainable Library Certification

Final presentation





**Libraries are part of
keeping the world
a sane place.**

Rebekkah Smith Aldrich
***Sustainable Thinking: Ensuring Your Library's Future
in an Uncertain World***

SUSTAINABILITY TEAM

Who We Are

Susanna Kahn
Jonathan Silverman
Margaret Woodruff



Where We Are

Charlotte, with its 3800 residents, hosts working farms and forests; it also serves as a bedroom community for businesses and industries in and around Burlington.

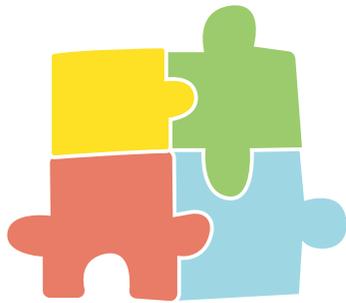


GETTING STARTED



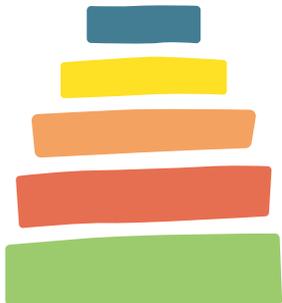
Introduction - Triple Bottom Line

Board and staff presentations provided an essential introduction to the certification project, as well as why our library is participating, and the importance for our library and our community.



Sustainability Team = Accountability

Our three-person team not only works together on the Action Form tasks but also helps the rest of the library staff and board with incorporating sustainability into policy and practice.



Policies = Framework

The Sustainability Policy, Purchasing Policy & Programming Policy, along with the updates to job descriptions give key support for sustainability work. We anticipate additional policy updates as the situation and need dictate.



Energy & Waste Audits

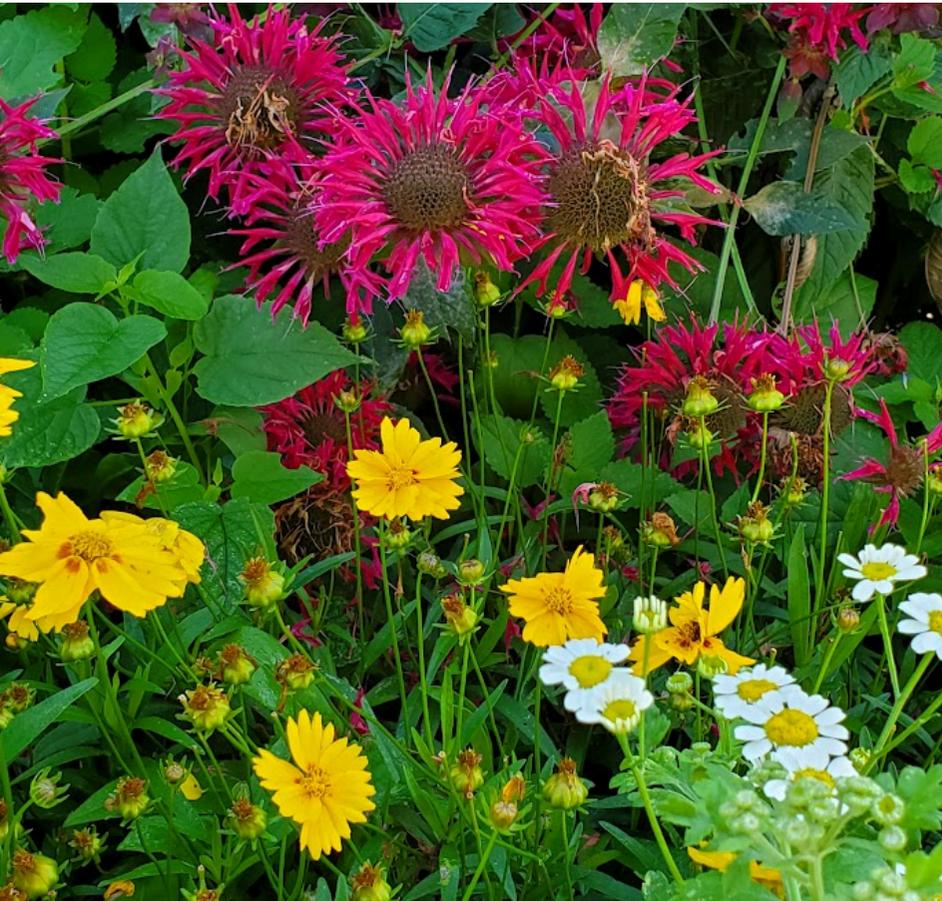
The energy audit showed the impact of “green” systems. The waste audit revealed hidden areas of wasteful practice.

Website

Our new website will highlight our sustainability practices as well as our ongoing work with others in our town to create a sustainable community.



OUTDOOR SPACES



POLLINATOR GARDEN

Pollinator garden planted in October 2020. Listed as site on Pollinator Pathway for Charlotte, VT.



NATIVE PLANTS

Native plants garden installed in October 2020, built on permaculture practices and including pollinators and soil enriching plant varieties.



STORM DRAINS

Rain garden certified as a BLUE design and an Ahead of the Storm demonstration site.

TREES

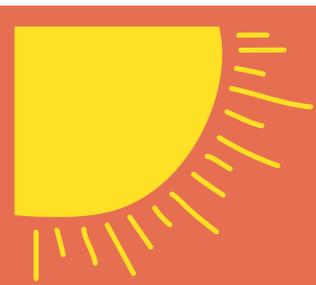
Library garden space includes a dedicated rain garden with trees and shrubs.



RUNOFF

Four-barrel rain barrel system captures rain and snow runoff from library roof. Water is used in libraries gardens.

INDOOR SPACES



Daylight

All staff have access to workstations with outside views and daylight.



Climate Comfort

Windows open for circulation of fresh air in warmer months. HVAC system monitored for safe ventilation throughout the year.



Fresh Veggies

Donation of CSA share offers local, seasonal vegetables to staff.



TRANSPORTATION



EV CHARGERS

Grant-funded charger installed in 2019.

1

2



TELECOMMUTING

Telecommuting options available for staff and community to work, learn, and meet remotely.



BUS STOP

Working with town energy committee and local transit company to petition for a town bus stop.

3



4

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

Installed grant-funded pedestrian crossing light for safer foot travel to the library.



5

BICYCLES

Working to add bike repair station near bike rack at library entrance and plan regular bike safety programs.

6

NO IDLING

The library supports the No Idling Statute:
23 V.S.A. § 1110.



ENERGY



Reduce Solar Gain

Window shades in the south and west facing windows keep the building cooler in the summer.

Convert to Heat Pumps

Heat pump HVAC installed for entire library during expansion project.

Solar Power

Solar panels on new town garage pay the energy bill, making the library net-zero building.

WATER

Water Usage

43.5 gallons
per week on
average



Stormwater Management

Rain barrels & rain
garden



MATERIALS

reuse,
repurpose,
recycle



We started with paper and plastic and expanded to everything from batteries to toothpaste tubes.



RECYCLING

STRETCHY PLASTIC
Newspaper sleeves, bread bags, grocery bags, product wrap, cereal liners, food storage & produce bags, ice bags, pellet bags, dry cleaning bags, case overwrap, salt bags, packing air pillows and all LDPE & HDPE films.

BATTERIES
Single-use batteries, such as AA, AAA, 9V or C or D cell, rechargeable and cellphone batteries.

E-WASTE
Electronics and accessories that are no bigger than a laptop.

CORKS
Natural corks from any bottled beverage. Bring to the desk.

CAN TOPPERS
4-pack holders for beer and other drinks.

ORAL CARE PRODUCTS & PACKAGING
toothpaste tubes, floss containers (no floss!), toothbrushes and all boxes or other packaging. Please make sure all materials are clean on the outside before dropping off.

SHAVING ACCESSORIES
All brands of disposable blades, razors, and plastic packaging.

RIGID #6 PLASTIC CUPS
Solo or other #6 plastic cups.

Charlotte LIBRARY

115 Ferry Road . Charlotte, VT 05445
802.425.3864 . charlottepubliclibrary.org



COLLECTIVE IMPACT



Civics

Charlotte's state representative gives a legislative update and answers questions three times a year.



RESILIENCE SURVEY
**COMMUNITY
CONVERSATION
SESSIONS**



Community Conversations

Facilitate and host discussions on issues from wastewater to playgroups.



Non-Profit Partnerships

Working with Dementia Friendly America and local senior center to provide Memory Cafe to area residents.



MEMORY
CAFE



Local Business Support

Served as drop-off for CSA. Hosted book fairs, music and food events.





Connections

Weekly Book Chat led to introduction to local artist and an indigo dyeing workshop.



Local Government Partnerships

Organizing Earth Month events with the town energy committee resulted in donations to the Library of Things and a commitment to ongoing partnerships.



SOCIAL COHESION



MLK Day of Service: Care Kit Drive

Donations of personal health items created kits for the Joint Urban Ministry Project. We appreciated the guidance from JUMP as well as inspiration from the King Center in Atlanta.



Braver Angels

Presented workshops to bridge the partisan divide and strengthen democracy.



BRAVER ANGELS

Bridging the Divide

**FEBRUARY 12 | 2:30 PM- 5:00 PM
CHARLOTTE LIBRARY**

In our current polarized political environment, many people avoid or dread conversations with friends, family or community members whose outlook differs from their own.

This workshop teaches skills for having respectful conversations that clarify differences, search for common ground, and affirm the importance of the relationship. They also give participants a safe environment to practice those skills. You are warmly invited to join us as we engage in this helpful and meaningful work.

Stay tuned for further information about this and a follow up workshop on March 19 on land use issues in Charlotte, an opportunity to put those skills to use!

Registration required.
Scan the QR code
or go to bit.ly/3k6gppn

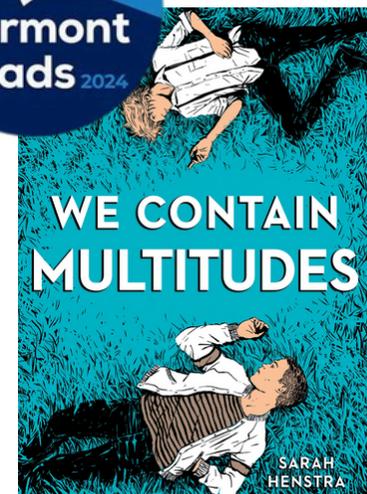
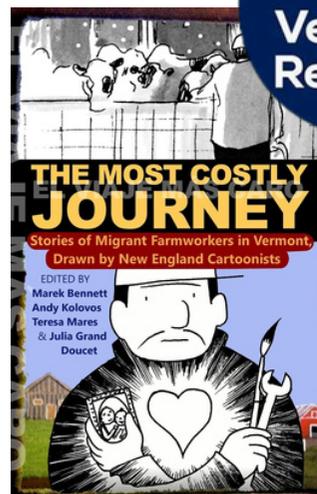
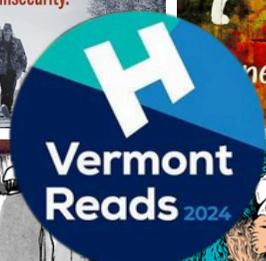
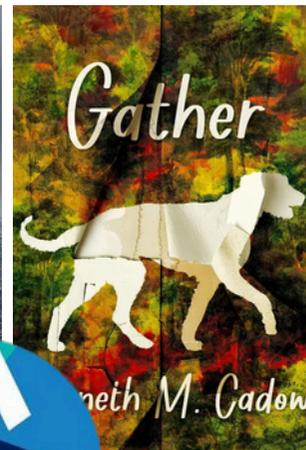


Braver Angels is a national movement committed to helping people to address these tendencies and to cultivate skills that foster constructive engagement across our differences.



Freedom Day: Juneteenth

Partnered with the Clemmons Family Farm for a day of storytelling and mural making.



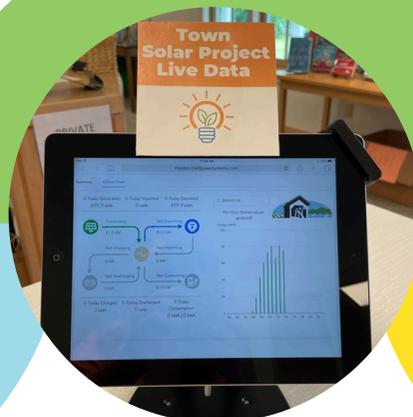
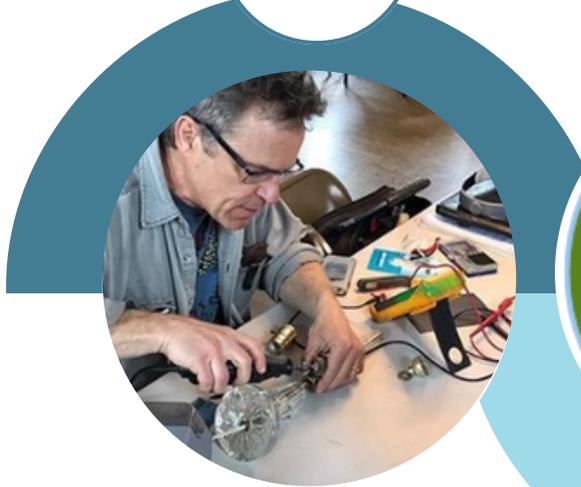
Vermont Reads

Facilitated community-wide book discussions and programs.

RESILIENCE PLANNING

Disaster Preparedness

Emergency Responders



Repair Cafe

Solar Panels

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Return on Investment

According to the ALA Library Value Calculator, the ROI for our community from the library is over 200%.



Fund Balance

Following best-practice guidelines from the Vermont Department of Libraries, the Library Board Treasurer and Library Director review and manage funds each month.



Living Wage

Thanks to a townwide Salary Review in 2020, Library Staff and other town employees receive a wage commensurate with their positions.

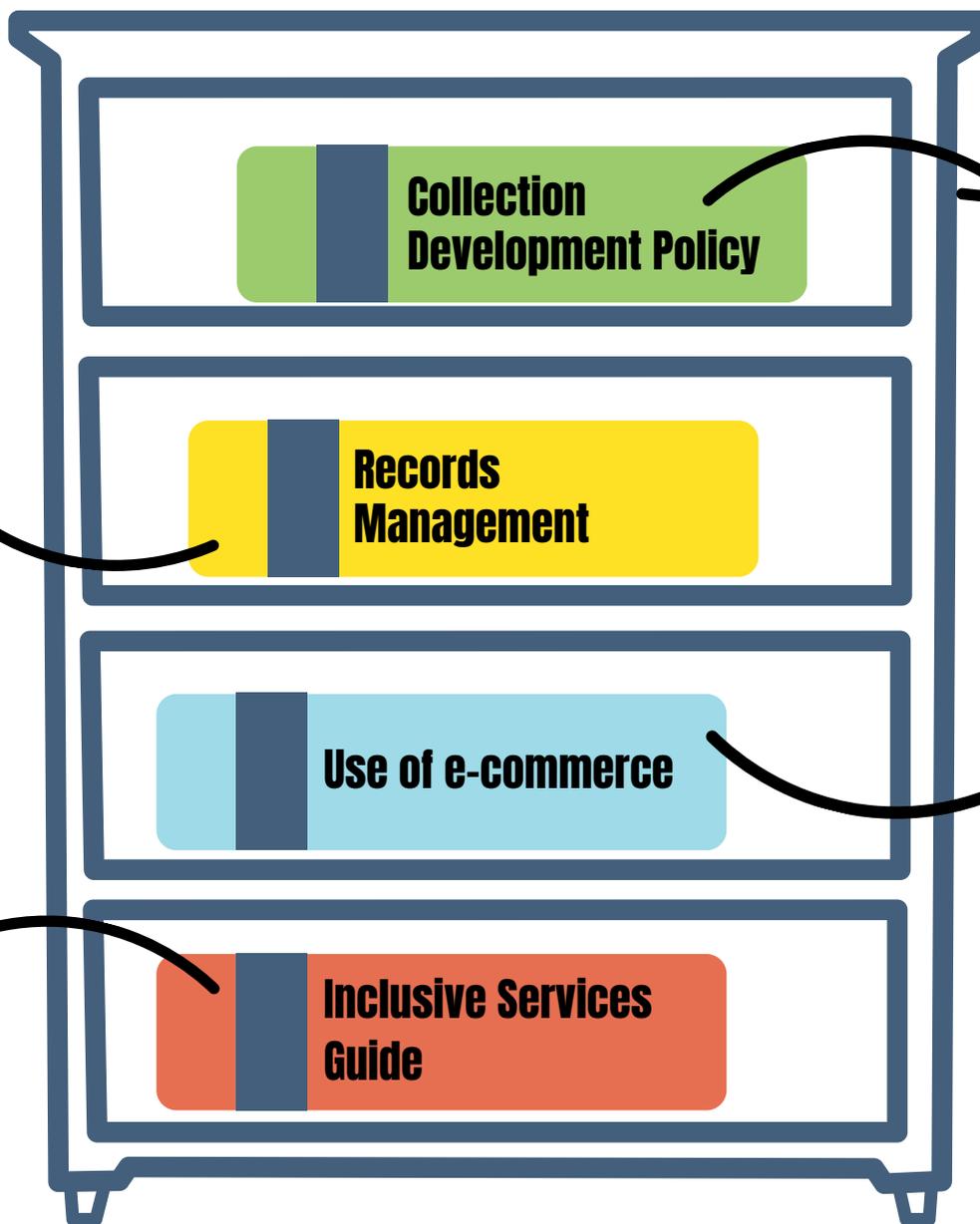


Health Insurance

As town employees, part-time and full-time library staff receive health insurance, vision, and dental benefits.



COLLECTIONS



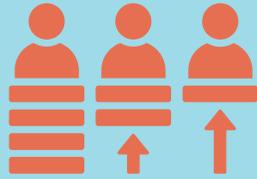
Developed model
Records Retention
Schedule in
collaboration with
Vermont State Archives
and Records
Administration

Updated policy
includes content by
and about a wide
array of people and
cultures to authentically
reflect a variety of ideas,
information, stories,
and experiences.

Determined which
areas of the library
collection need
accessibility upgrades
and which areas need
expansion for greater
inclusivity.

Established use of
electronic catalogs
and journals for
ordering supplies and
materials for the
library. Enrolled in e-
billing for services.

ASPIRATIONS



Create Lasting Commitment to the Triple Bottom Line

POLICY & PROCEDURE

Diversity

Community representation
Celebration of all cultures



Inclusive Services

Dementia Friendly Library
Increased Accessibility



Continued Collaboration

Maintain partnerships
Pursue new connections



PRACTICE

Emergency Response

Back-up power supply
Water bottle filler
Increased resources



Library of Things

Continued additions to
support community needs



Food Literacy

Increase food &
cooking programs



THANK YOU!



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

Charlotte
LIBRARY
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