



SUSTAINABLE LIBRARY POLICY

Public libraries play a central role as both leaders and educators in their communities. The Mendon Public Library wants to use this influence to lead by example and spark community conversations about resiliency and sustainability. In joining the Sustainable Library Initiative we will work towards becoming more environmentally sound, socially equitable and economically feasible. These three pillars make up the “Triple Bottom Line,” that encompasses the Sustainable Library Initiative.

Our Library Board of Trustees, Administration, and Staff are committed to reducing our environmental footprint and promoting environmental stewardship at all levels of our organization. The Mendon Public Library supports sustainable principles that ensure a resilient, sustainable community and library for all residents. We will strive for economic efficiency, to conserve energy, support renewable energy resources, minimize pollution and waste, protect our habitat and buy environmentally friendly products.

Libraries have long been a place of continuing education. The Mendon Public Library will strive to provide equal access to educational resources, access to the internet, and innovative programming to ensure that all of our community members continue to ask questions and learn new things.

Mendon Public Library is a critical component of the Town’s social infrastructure. We will facilitate opportunities to bring people from different walks of life together to build greater social cohesion and a stronger community. Sustainability is more attainable when people engage and strive to address challenges and make positive change together.

To become more economically feasible, we will analyze our current resources and consumption to determine ways we can conserve. We will strive for a strong workforce by providing good wages and opportunities for a healthy work-life balance. We will act strategically and make choices which will help us have the best long-term outcomes for a sustainable economic future.

The Administration and the Board of Trustees will encourage Library staff to proactively apply sustainable thinking within the facilities, operations, policies, technology, programming and partnerships. All employees will receive a copy of this policy and will be educated about the Library’s efforts to strive towards the “triple bottom line” definition of sustainability: using practices that are environmentally sound, economically feasible, and socially equitable.