

# COMSTOCK TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

---

## 2025 ANNUAL REPORT



*We welcome our community to learn, grow, and explore through a variety of resources, technology, and opportunities for lifelong learning.*

# Library Year in Review

I'm pleased to present this comprehensive summary of the Comstock Township Library's achievements and activities in 2025. The year was marked by circulation increase, expanded services, and a continued commitment to meeting the evolving needs of our community. Through planning, dedicated staff, and growing community partnerships, the Library remained a vital, reliable source for learning, connection, and discovery.

## Overall Operations

Throughout 2025, the Library experienced modest growth in circulation and steady program participation. Staff worked to enhance access to a wide variety of materials, expand program offerings, and maintain excellent customer service, even while navigating operational challenges. The Library continued to invest in services, collections, and infrastructure that directly benefit our patrons.

## Staffing Updates

Staffing remained stable through much of the year; however, in fall, the Youth Department experienced two resignations and one retirement. While this presented a short-term challenge, we were fortunate to hire two qualified and highly enthusiastic new staff members, with a third slated to begin work early in the new year.

Although the transition required some adjustments, it has positioned us well for future growth. We look forward to expanding and diversifying youth programming once the Department is fully staffed and trained.

We were especially proud to share that our Head of Youth Services, Traci, was awarded the Michigan Library Association's Frances H. Pletz Award for Excellence in Service to Youth!

The Pletz award is presented annually to a Michigan library staff person who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of library service to youth, ages 0-18, throughout their career. This recognition reflects Traci's dedication, expertise, and lasting impact on services to our young patrons.

## Programming & Service Highlights

In 2025, the Library increased adult program offerings and saw solid attendance for all programs, both in-house and through community outreach efforts.

Our continued partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library resulted in the distribution of 1,848 free books to young readers in the community, supporting early literacy.

In partnership with Comstock Township Parks & Recreation, Story Walks were installed at both Merrill Park and Robert Morris Park, encouraging literacy and family engagement. The Library regularly attended the Comstock Farmers Market over the summer months, as well as various other events at the local parks and schools.

The continuing COLT student library card program provided all Comstock School students with a digital library card they can use to check out physical and digital materials. On average, students with COLT cards check out about 1K items annually!

The Library supported the Comstock Community Center's annual food drive by serving as a donation collection site.

## Collection Highlights

We launched a Seed Library in spring, which was met with much enthusiasm and positive feedback from patrons. The Seed Library went into

hibernation for the fall and winter, with plans to open it again the following spring.

Use of digital items including books, audiobooks, and audio-visual increased, reflecting increasing demand for remote access to materials. We added *Kanopy*, an online video streaming service, which quickly proved popular with patrons.

Later in the year, we began a digital subscription with the *New York Times*. Any patron with a CTL card can now visit our website to receive a code granting free 24-hour access to all *NYT* content, greatly expanding access to news and educational resources.

### **Other Projects**

A significant challenge arose when the country's largest library book supplier unexpectedly went out of business. Thanks to staff responsiveness and planning, the Library was able to pivot to a new vendor with minimal disruption to ordering and patron access to materials.

### **Technology Updates**

Several technology improvements were made in 2025. We upgraded the building's security camera system, transitioned to a cloud-based backup for server data, and updated all computer stations to Windows 11.

Additionally, the Library joined the Michigan Digital Preservation Network, ensuring more secure storage and long-term preservation of our local history materials.

### **Building Updates**

Facility improvements included a complete update of the digital sign in front of the building and all new exterior signage.

A new roof was installed, and plans were finalized to replace the skylight in spring 2026.

### **Looking forward to 2026**

Reflecting on 2025, the Library made progress even with periods of transition and change. Looking ahead to 2026, we are focused on strengthening youth services, expanding programming opportunities, and continuing to invest in technology, collections, and infrastructure that support our mission.

Comstock Township Library remains dedicated to serving as a vibrant hub for the community—fostering learning, growth, and exploration for all. We are deeply grateful to our patrons, staff, and Board for their continued support, and we look forward to another successful year!

Sincerely,

Emily Kubash  
Director, Comstock Township Library

### **Library Board 2025**

Shari Donovan, President

Joseph Calvaruso, Vice President

Karen Jameson, Secretary/Treasurer

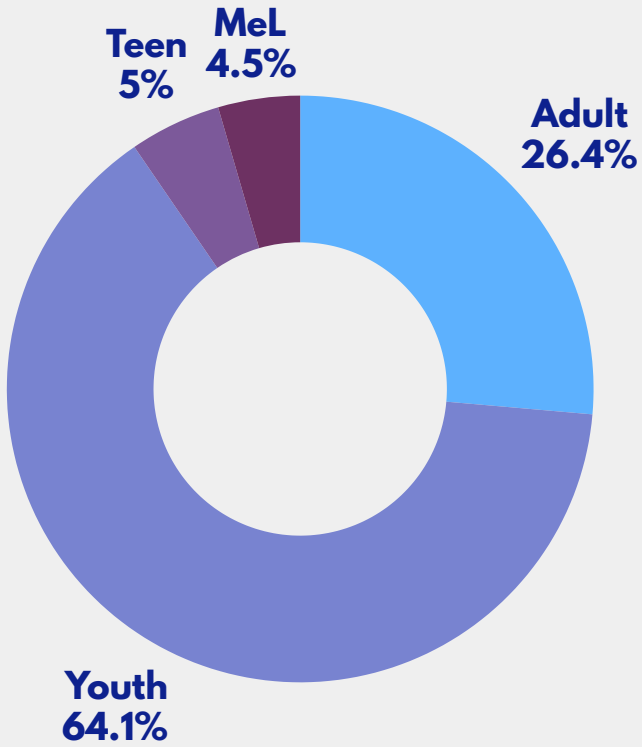
Andrea Clark, Trustee

Felicia Sidney, Trustee

James VanSweden, Trustee

# 2025 CIRCULATION

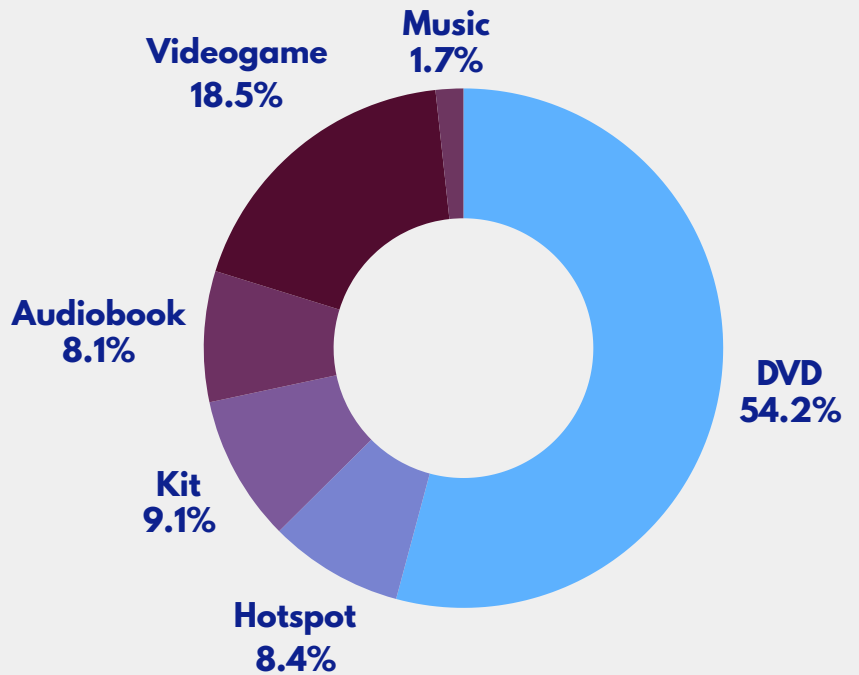
Book checkouts: 86,579



**Total Circulation in 2025 : 127,025**



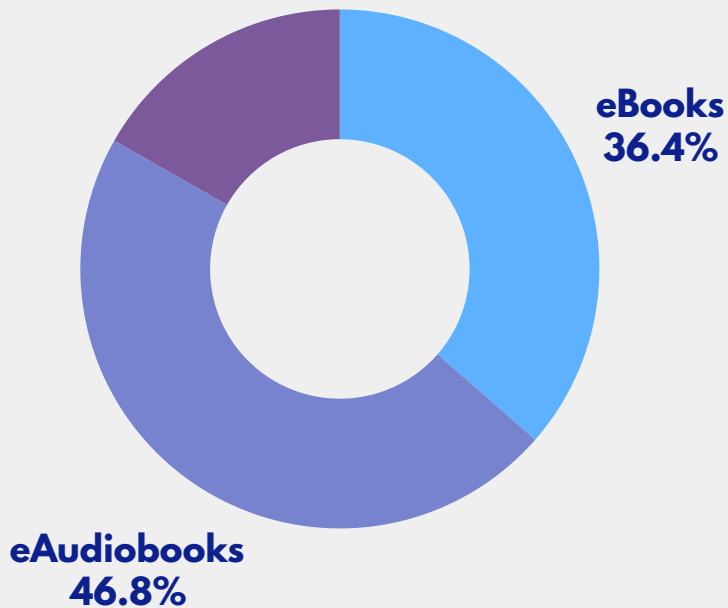
AV & Special Collection checkouts: 12,066



# 2025 CIRCULATION

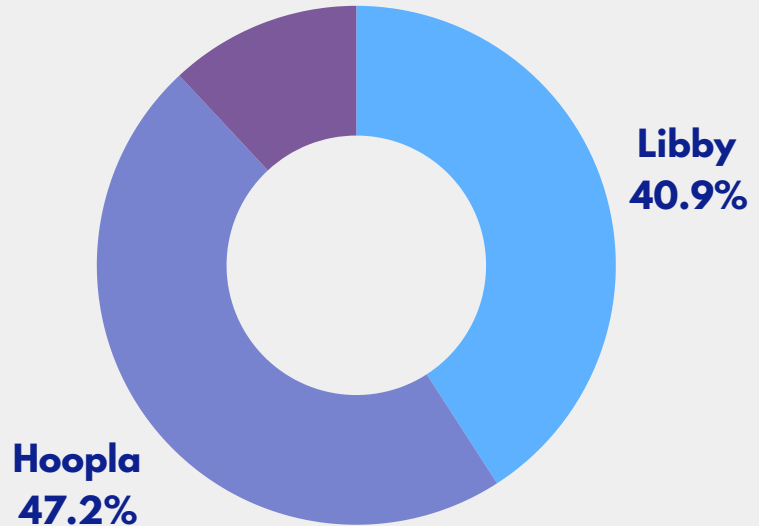
Digital checkouts: 28,380

eMusic & eVideo  
16.8%

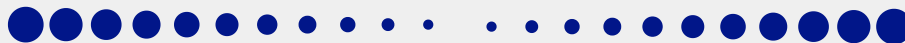


Digital Service Usage

Kanopy  
11.9%



## Highest Circulating Titles of 2025



Adult fiction:

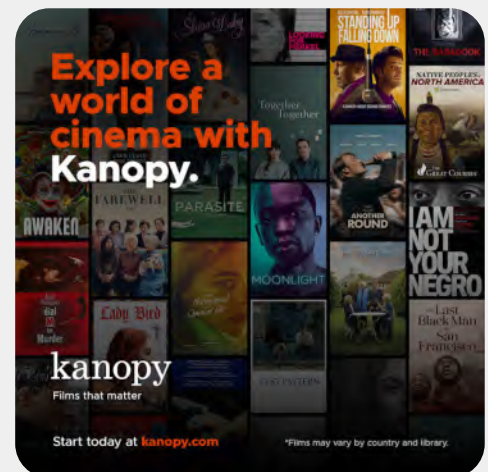
*The Women* by Kristin Hannah

Youth fiction:

*Pokemon Black & White* by Hidenori Kusaka

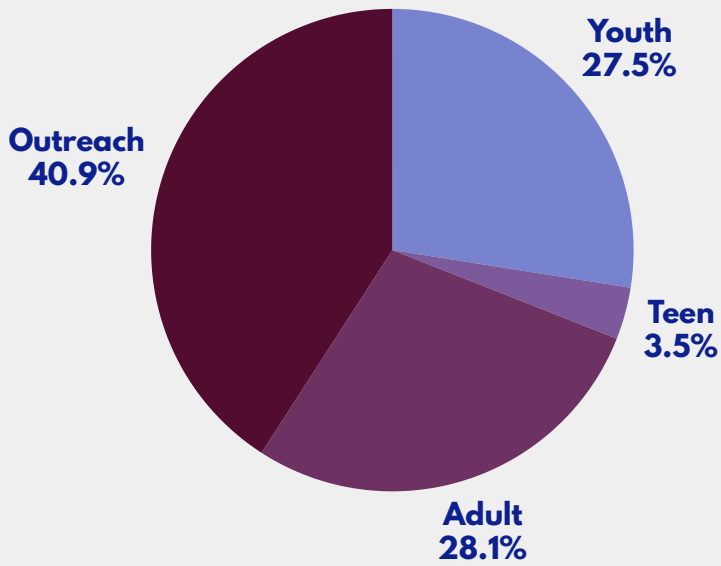
DVD:

*Ted Lasso*



# 2025 PROGRAMS & SERVICE

## Program Attendance



592 patrons participated in the Summer Reading Program



410 programs were held with 8,200 people attending



201 children were sent 1,848 books through our partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library



CTL had 58,944 patron visits in 2025

Staff answered 18,791 reference questions

5,241 active library card users