1) Wisconsin Public Library Building Projects Survey

The Wisconsin Library Buildings & Spaces Project is creating a list of public libraries that have recently undergone or are currently undergoing a building/facility project--from building a new building to overall renovations or a particular space reconfiguration, refresh, or renovation.

Once feedback is gathered, the list will be shared on the WI Library Buildings & Spaces web page so other libraries interested in a building project can view and/or visit libraries with similar projects. If your library has made any noteworthy changes since 2019, please fill out this survey by Monday, December 30.

2) Save the Date: Annual Report Preparation Day

Save the date for Thursday, December 12 for assistance on the 2024 Annual Report.
The morning session, held from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., will review changes to the 2024 annual report with Melissa Aro, Data Analyst & State Data Coordinator from the Library Services Team at the DPI.

The afternoon session, held from 1 - 3 p.m., will look at the state data dashboard pilot and address specific questions and activities related to the library's annual reports. Lunch will be included. Online participation will be an option, but in-person participation is encouraged.

3) Introduction to Deep Freeze Training

2 - 3 p.m on Wednesday, November 20
Deep Freeze is a program installed on all WVLS library public computers to protect and regularly update the computer and secure public computer user privacy. This session will cover the basic functions of Deep Freeze, including when it is installed and running on the machine, how library staff can access a frozen computer, and how to use the Deep Freeze console to send commands to the public computer.
Background Information
Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 848 2955 4112
Passcode: 26KRdZb4

4) BadgerLink Advisory Group

Apply to join the BadgerLink Advisory Group! DPI is seeking 10 new members to serve a two-year term beginning Spring 2025. Applications will be accepted through Friday, December 13.

The BadgerLink Advisory Group's mission is to seek to improve the ability of all Wisconsin residents to access and effectively use the high-quality, licensed resources, expand service visibility to existing as well as new and diverse audiences, and build stronger relationships between members and their libraries and

community organizations.The group will meet virtually two times per year. The anticipated time commitment to review pre-meeting materials and generate notes for discussion is roughly 1.5 hours per meeting. [Read more and apply](#).

5) New Certification Manual for Public Library Directors

A new edition of the [Certification Manual for Wisconsin Public Library Directors](#) is now available.

The certification process has not significantly changed, but there is one item of note: Librarians who are interested in completing self-directed, Category C continuing education activities will need to obtain pre-approval from their library system CE validators before completing the activity. This requirement will begin with CE completed after January 1, 2025, and will only apply to Category C activities. Any activities completed in 2024 will be handled as previously instructed by your public library system CE validators.

An informal, optional webinar will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 4, to review the new certification manual and answer your questions about certification. [Register here for the webinar.](#) The presentation will also be recorded and shared at a later date.

For more information about the new Certification Manual or the certification process in general, contact WVLS certification validator Jamie Matczak at jmatczak@wvls.org.

6) Applications Being Accepted for Building Equity Based Summers Cohort

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) Library Services Team is looking for six libraries to participate in the 2025 Building Equity Based Summers (BEBS) Cohort. The BEBS initiative is funded and made possible in part through an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grant. Each participating library will be represented by a team of two staff members. Libraries are encouraged to have staff from across departments and can include Youth Services, Adult Services, Programming, Outreach, or Administrative staff. [Read more.](#)

7) Upcoming Webinars

- [Funding Your Makerspace](#) - 3 p.m. on Monday, November 18
- [A Thoughtful Approach to EDI Family Programming](#) - 1 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19
- [Providing Mental Health Resources at Your Library](#) - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20
- [Rural Health Resources](#) - 1 p.m. on Thursday, November 21

8) Lead the Way Conference

The University of Wisconsin-Madison's Information School is hosting the 2025 Lead the Way: Libraries at the Heart of Community Engagement conference April 21-22, 2025. This event emphasizes the important role libraries play in fostering community engagement. This conference represents an excellent opportunity for library professionals to connect, learn, and contribute to the ongoing conversation about the vital role of libraries in community engagement. [Registration is now open](#).

9) Reminders:

- **WVLS Hiring Public Library Services Consultant**
  WVLS is seeking an innovative, knowledgeable, and experienced team-oriented individual to provide professional and courteous consultant services, onsite and remotely, to 25 public libraries

in its 7-county central Wisconsin service area. Candidates must have a master's degree in a library and information studies program that has been accredited by the American Library Association, and 5 years of professional experience in a public library setting.

Applications received by Friday, November 22, will receive first consideration. See the WVLS website for a complete job description and application information.

- **Data Dashboard Dissection #3**
  The new, statewide data dashboard pilot of public library data as reported in the Annual Report to DPI continues to run through December 31. The dashboard is available on the WPLC website. WVLS staff are breaking down exploring sections for library directors and staff called "Data Dashboard Dissections." WVLS member librarians who complete each task by the deadline indicated are eligible for a prize. Librarians who complete all four tasks by the deadlines will be eligible to receive a $25 Amazon gift card.

  Check out the third "Data Dashboard Dissection" focusing on library size and circulation. This task, including submitting responses via a Google form, should be completed by Tuesday, November 19.