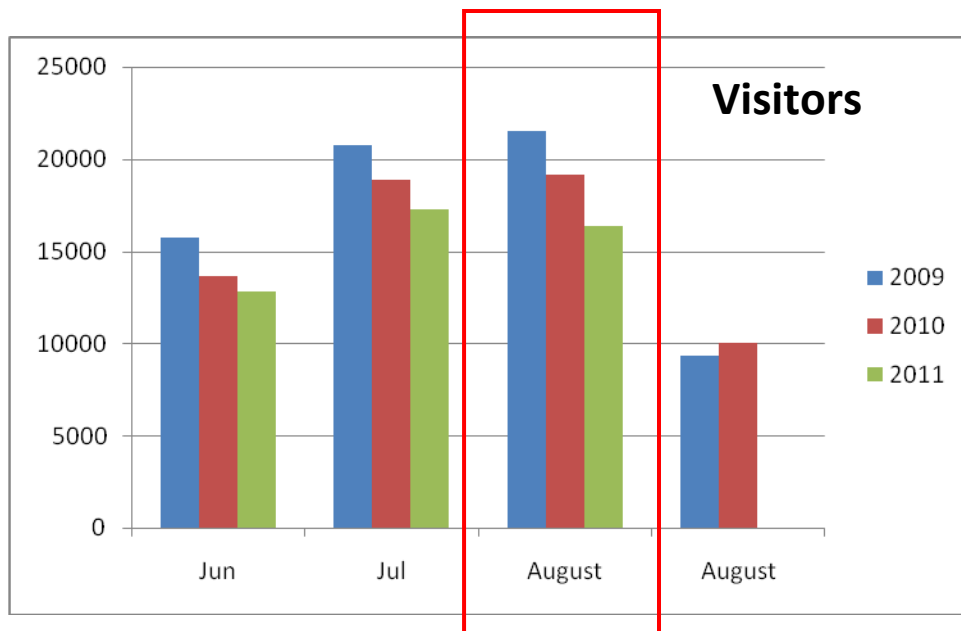
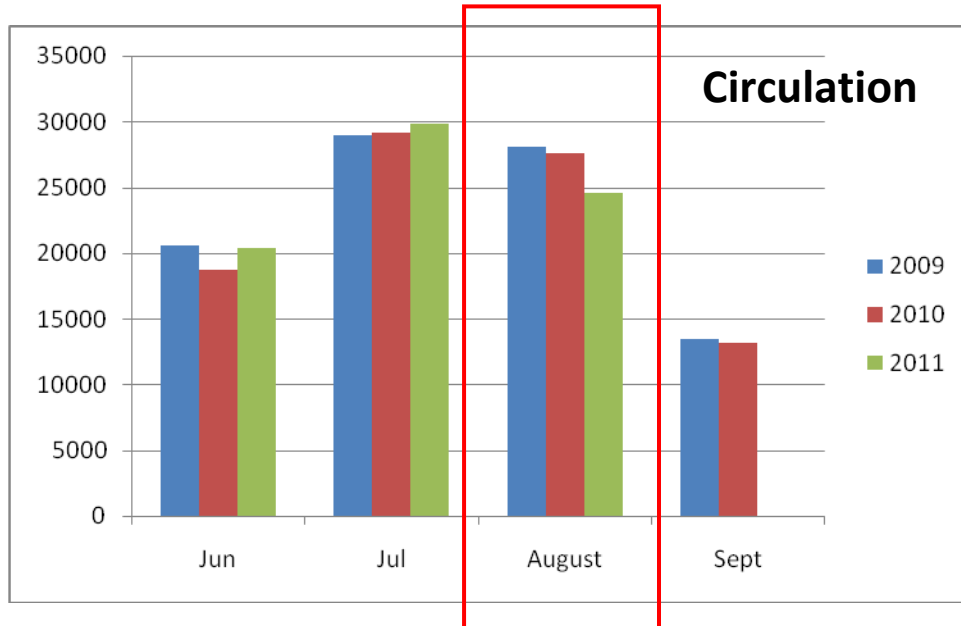


Avalon Free Public Library Director's Report – September, 2011

August's circulation (24547) decreased by 18% from July (29803), and decreased by 11% from this time last year (27547). By the end of August, 126,979 items were circulated for the year, less than 1% increase from this time last year (126,682).



Visits to the library in July (16388) decreased by 5% from July (17288) but decreased by 14% from August of last year (19129). By the end of June, there were 75676 visits since the beginning of the year. This was approximately 10% below 2010's year to date figure (83740).

Avalon Free Public Library Director's Report – September, 2011

Hurricane Irene - The library was closed on August 26, 27 and 28 as a result of Hurricane Irene. Although mandatory evacuation did not occur until the evening of the August 26, the Mayor requested that the library close on that day. The library resumed normal operations Monday, August 29. All activities scheduled during these three days were cancelled including the Bay-Atlantic Symphony (BAS) concert.

In support of Borough operations during this crisis, the library's website and Constant Contact Newsletter were utilized to keep our patrons informed of what was happening. The text boxes on the library's website index page provided information concerning the hurricane and evacuation orders and were updated as new information became available. After the mandatory evacuation order was promulgated on the August 25th, the library sent a newsletter to patrons on the email list, relaying the evacuation order, library closure, cancellation of the BAS concert, and links to a variety of weather and emergency information sources. The email was opened by 1210 patrons.

The library's preparations for the hurricane underscored the need for a formalized emergency management / evacuation plan. The goal of this plan would be to safeguard sufficient infrastructure that would enable us to reestablish library services under a variety of scenarios. In the case of a hurricane, the plan would:

- Identify the conditions which would trigger the plan's activation
- Identify the role that library could play in supporting the Borough and our patrons throughout the emergency.
- Identify library infrastructure to be safeguarded
- Identify personnel, resources and procedures needed to accomplish this
- Coordinate efforts with the Borough
- Identify alternative locations at which to reestablish library services
- Set priorities for salvage and identify related resources

Summer Reading Program – Of the 48 who initially registered, 19 children read 663 books and wrote 126 short book reviews for our library website.

Helen Diller Vacation Home – At the beginning of the summer, the library loaned the Helen Diller Vacation Home for Blind Children 100 children's audiobooks. The Lion's Club and previously given the Home CD players and headphones. This year as a result of our relationship with the Talking Book and Braille Center (TBBC), we were able to provide 2 digital players, 10 children's audiobooks (which were sent to us by the TBBC) and 20 YA fiction downloads from the Library of Congress BARD system.

Avalon Free Public Library Director's Report – September, 2011

Symphony by the Sea – The Bay-Atlantic Symphony concert originally scheduled for August 27, has been rescheduled for September 17. The guest violinist Kai Gleusteen has agreed to return from Europe to play at the concert.

Rebecca Leopold, who has been a part-time library and museum assistant, has resigned to take a professional position at Egg Harbor Branch of the Atlantic County Public Library system. We wish her the best of luck.

Summer programming – This summer (June-August), the library sponsored 229 programs which attended by 5735 people. The attendance at the 82 children's programs were 2535. For the 147 adult programs, 3200 people attended.



August 25, 2011

Avalon Free Public Library Hurricane Irene

609-967-7155 ~ Long Distance Toll Free: 888-541-7279

Quick Links

AFPL Website
History Center
Library Blog
New Catalog
Database Resources
Community Calendar
Upcoming DVD's
New Fiction
New eBooks
New Non-Fiction
Director's Rpt July
Library Stats July
History Ctr July
2010 Council Rpt
PC Users Blog
Mailing Labels
Library by Mail
AFPL on Facebook
AFPL on Twitter
Handicap Services
Employment

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Library Closing Friday

The library will be closed Friday, Saturday and Sunday. We will reopen as soon as practicable after the storm's passage. Any fines that occur as a result of this closure will be waived.

Bay-Atlantic Symphony Concert Postponed. All Borough Activities Cancelled

The Bay-Atlantic Symphony concert scheduled for this Saturday is postponed as a result of the approach of Hurricane Irene. A new date has not yet been determined. All Borough activities have been cancelled this weekend.

Time to Pack Up

The Avalon Office of Emergency Management has issued a mandatory evacuation for all residents on Friday, August 26.

Information Sources

[Borough of Avalon](#) - For the latest information concerning Avalon's response to Hurricane Irene. It would be useful to checkout Avalon's [Flood and Hurricane Guide](#). Are you signed up for the [Borough's reverse 911 system](#)?

[Cape May County Emergency Managements Center](#)

[New Jersey Office of Emergency Management](#)

[New Jersey Department of Transportation 511](#) - Traffic info.

[Delaware Emergency Management Agency](#)

Weather

[National Hurricane Center](#)

[The Weather Channel - Avalon](#)

[Accuweather - Avalon](#)