

ARLINGTON HILLS BRANCH LIBRARY
1105 Greenbrier Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106

At a Glance: 2008

Built-Remodeled	1917-1988-1997
Square Ft	7,922
Hours/week*	51.5
Days/open/week	Six
Materials Budget	\$50,435
Collection Size	33,524
Material:	
Adult	10, 867
Juvenile	15,750
Total Circulation	88,552
Adult	42,225 (48%)
Juvenile	46,327 (52%)
Circulation/FTE	14,758
Total Information	5,434
Information/Ref FTE	1,449
In-House Materials Use	19,448
FTEs Public Service*	5.3
Gate Count	168,267

Computer Workstations (Public) 26: Internet: 10; Word processors: 3; Catalog workstations: 3; Children’s workstations: 1; Learning center: 9.

Lounge chairs: 2; Study tables: 5 with 20 chairs; Study carrels: 0

SERVICE PROFILE:

Arlington Hills is one of the four Carnegie Libraries — the oldest branches — in the Saint Paul Public Library system. It opened in 1917 after its early life as a “library station” from 1905–1917 in Bodin’s Drug Store. The building was modernized in 1958, renovated in 1987, and in 1997 was brought back to its original glory and provided with required accessibility.

The neighborhood served is bordered by the Dayton’s Bluff area on the south to the city limits at Larpenteur Avenue on the north, to 35E on the west and nearly to White Bear Avenue on the east.

Arlington Hills Branch has approximately 26,426 people in its service area — the third largest service area in the SPPL system. The Demographics Now.com website highlighted the following demographic information about the Arlington Hills Branch Library community:

- A young median age (29.5) compared with the national norm (36.9).
- Increases in population among Asian (+337%), Latino (+187%) , and Black (+176%) populations

- Most prominent age group is Ages 5-14 years old, with 19.4% of the population
- Median household income is \$44,597, compared to the US average of \$68,953
- High in percentage of family households reflecting Asian and Latino families
- Large average family size

This neighborhood has historically been home for our newest residents. Swede Hollow and vicinity have been home to Swedish, Irish, Italian, Mexican, Hmong (and other Asian), Latino, and African people. There is active support for keeping this branch thriving, both to provide library services to the people and to serve as a symbol of community stability.

In the last few years, Arlington Hills has collaborated with community partners in English speaking skills, literacy and job finding efforts (Casa Esperanza, Arlington Hills Lutheran Church, Merrick Community Services and the Minnesota Literacy Council). We work to establish and maintain relationships with our various partners.

In early 2009, Arlington Hills opened the Hot Spot Community Learning Center in the library's lower level. The Learning Center is the place where adults come to search for jobs, complete resumes, and otherwise work on their job skills. The same area houses a homework help program for children using our library. The two parts work together to provide a complete and welcome center for our clientele as a whole.

Arlington Hills Branch Library serves this community with materials in English and other appropriate languages, and outreach efforts in schools, pre-schools, family centers, and family resource centers. We are working to be a visible and essential part of this neighborhood through the provision of information and access to technology, and by serving as a hub of the community.