



August 4, 2026 Operating Millage Renewal Information

The majority of SDL's funding comes from two local millages. One of these will be up for renewal on the August 2026 ballot. Here is some information about what that means for our library community.

Is this a tax increase?

No. The millage is up for renewal was a 20-year .55 mill millage that has expired this year. **SDL is asking voters to renew this millage for 10 years at a reduced rate of .33 mills.**

What does .33 mills mean?

A mill is \$1 for every \$1,000 of taxable value. On a home worth \$400,000 with a taxable value of \$200,000, .33 mills would be \$66/year.

How much of SDL's revenue is from this millage?

Approximately 26% of the library's revenue comes from this millage. In the 2025 fiscal year, that was about \$783,500.

What about the other local millage mentioned above?

SDL also has a permanent .9 mil millage that is currently levied at .8058 mills. These two millages combined generate approximately 92% of SDL's revenue.

What will the language be on the August 4 ballot?

"Shall the Saline District Library, Washtenaw County, Michigan, be authorized to levy annually a renewal of the previously voted increase in the tax limitation that expired in 2025, in an amount not to exceed .33 mill (\$0.33 per \$1,000 of taxable value) against all taxable property within the Saline District Library district for a period of ten (10) years, 2026 through 2035, inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for all district library purposes authorized by law? The estimate of the revenue the Saline District Library will collect if the millage is approved and levied by the Saline District Library in the first year (2026) is approximately \$887,000."

What does the “District” mean in Saline District Library?

It means that the library has its own governance and funding that are separate from the City of Saline, surrounding townships, or Saline Area Schools. The library district has the same boundaries as the Saline Area Schools district and serves 28,291 people (according to the last US Census).

Here’s a look at the impact that Saline District Library had on the community in 2025:

- 251,518 items were checked out
- The library was visited 158,183 times
- 130,861 eLibrary items were checked out from Libby, Hoopla, and Kanopy
- Our public wifi and computers were used 49,785 times
- 22,587 people came to programs for all ages at the library
- Our staff members answered 26,283 reference questions
- 2,282 people participated in Summer Reading (this was the highest number in SDL history!)
- ...and all of these numbers are up from the previous year. SDL continues to grow!

What does the money from this millage pay for?

This is an operating millage, which means the money can be used for any regular expenses involved with operating the library. In 2025, the amount of revenue from this millage was the equivalent of how much SDL spent providing our community with:

- New library materials
- eLibrary resources like Libby and Hoopla
- Programming for all ages
- Summer Reading
- Special features like the SDL SeeDLibrary and ETC Collection
- Technology services and internet access
- Maintaining our recently renovated building and grounds as a gathering space for all

Who can I contact if I have more questions about this millage renewal?

Library Director Karrie Waarala would be happy to answer any questions that you may have. You can contact Karrie via email at karrie@salinelibrary.org or by phone at 734-429-5450.

