

DURANGO TOOL LIBRARY



ANNUAL BENEFIT REPORT
2025





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OUR MISSION

To provide access to tools
and supporting resources through a
sustainable, low-barrier service



MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARIANS

Dear friends,

In order to provide transparency and accountability for how well the Durango Tool Library (DTL) executes its mission and benefits the public, we publish an annual public benefit report, as required by the State of Colorado. This annual benefit report includes a highlight reel, business summary, and B-Lab impact assessment.

2025 was DTL's fourth year of operations. For the fourth year in a row, DTL's membership and borrow traffic increased significantly. As a fledgling business with a rather unique business model, we count this as a huge win. We are gaining more confidence that our small tool sharing operation can become a viable and lasting community resource. Our hope: to grow DTL enough to hire some helping hands, increase the number of days we're open each week, establish a workshop space for classes and shared work space, and, ultimately, provide access to more tools for more SW Coloradans.

In 2025, we made some strides towards this goal, including growing our membership base and our tool collection. We also purchased our commercial space, an especially important development for our longevity. We've noticed, over the years, how well-loved local haunts go out-of-business simply because they could not move locations at the whim of a landlord who had different designs for their physical space. We feel lucky we were able to drop anchor. Additionally, as the owners of our space, we are now positioned to make improvements, including building-out the space to accommodate more tools and traffic.

A huge thank you to all Durango Tool Library (DTL) members who make DTL possible and to the community members who have donated tools to our collection. New and returning members stand on the shoulders of a very generous base of sustaining members who have been with the DTL since the beginning or close to it. Donations helped us grow our catalog when our budget was too tight to purchase more tools. These fine people embody the truth that by contributing a little (or a lot), we all have access to more.

May the swarf be always with you,

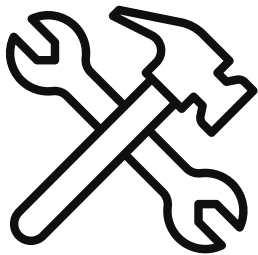
Kathleen Gollner, Tenny Webster & Rango

Librarians/Co-Presidents & Shop Dog

2025 HIGHLIGHTS

In 2025, the Durango Tool Library (DTL) grew considerably, even more than previous years. This growth brings us closer to our goal of establishing DTL as a viable, lasting resource for the community.

More people joined the tool library in 2025. More people returned or continued using the tool library. Additionally, more tools were borrowed than ever before.



TOOL BORROWS

DTL aims to provide DIYers with access to the tools they need. We strive to be a reliable resource for sharing tools within our community.

★ **2,455** tool borrows—a 29% increase over 2024.

★ **6,217** tool borrows since DTL launched in November 2021.



MEMBERSHIP

DTL aims to support residents of Durango and the surrounding area. We strive to provide an inclusive, accessible service.

★ **314** members—a 54% increase over 2024.

★ **110** new members in 2025.

★ **48** members returned in 2025.

★ **85%** of members live in Durango. **15%** live in surrounding area.

★ Members range in age from **21 to 85**.

DTL members borrowed tools for a wide variety of projects in 2025, from home renovations and home builds, to starting and expanding home gardens, to bike, car, ski, and clothing repairs and maintenance.

Here are some of snapshots and Google reviews shared by DTL members in 2025.



Awesome place.

All the tools you might need. Friendly and knowledgeable staff. Great monthly membership fee. Pays for itself after the first job.



Absolutely love the Tool Library!

Tenny is such a wonderful person—always welcoming, helpful, and full of knowledge. He's genuinely dedicated to helping you solve problems and makes sure you walk away with exactly the right tool for your project. His support has made so many of my DIY tasks easier. Highly recommend!



What an amazing resource!

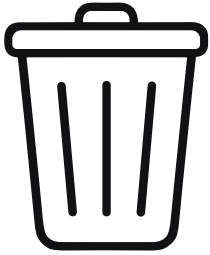
They have SO many things to rent (not just tools, but also cake decorating, dehydrator, steam clean vacuum, bike mechanic, etc) and are so helpful with your project. We are really fortunate to have this in our community.



Such a great resource for Durango!

Not only do they have a breadth of equipment to checkout they are more than willing to go above and beyond with showing you how to use the equipment to its fullest ability.

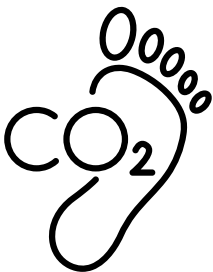
DTL supported more sustainable tool use in the community, by diverting waste and reducing embedded carbon associated with tools. DTL also helped members save money by avoiding the cost of buying their own tools.



DIVERTED TOOL WASTE

DTL aims to reduce the amount of tools discarded in local landfills by offering an alternative to individuals buying their own tools.

- ★ **21,000** lbs collective diverted trash in 2025.
- ★ **119** lbs average tool waste savings per member.
- ★ **47,000** lbs collective savings since November 2021.



EMBEDDED CARBON SAVINGS*

DTL aims to make using tools more sustainable. Members can reduce their carbon footprint by sharing tools instead of buying their own.

- ★ **89,700** lbs collective embedded carbon savings—a 42% increase over 2024.
- ★ **507** lbs average savings per member.
- ★ **220,000** lbs collective savings since November 2021.

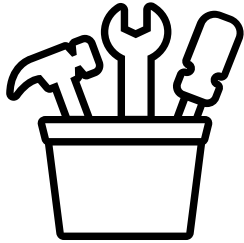


COST SAVINGS

DTL aims to make access to tools more affordable. Members can save money by borrowing tools instead of buying them new.

- ★ **\$257,000** collective cost savings—a 56% increase over 2024.
- ★ **\$1,500** average savings per member.
- ★ **\$582,000** collective cost savings since November 2021.

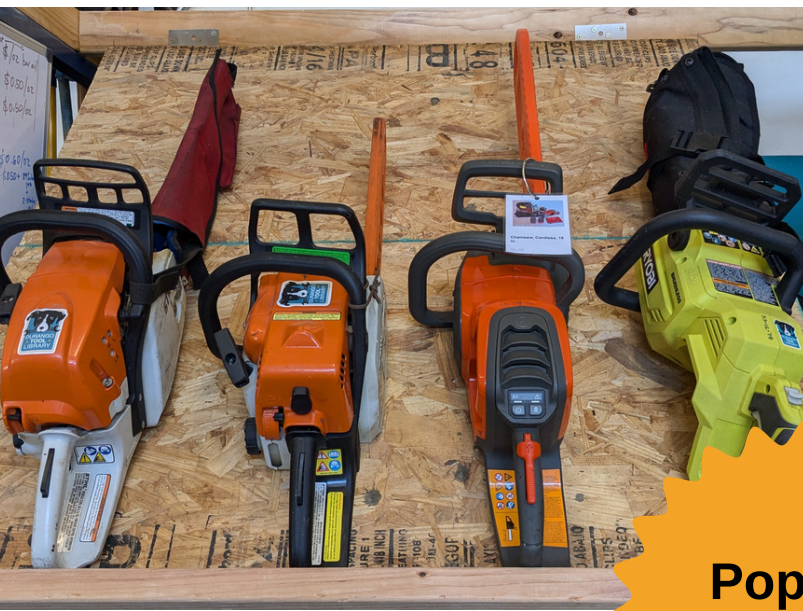
More tools were made available for borrowing. DTL acquired quite a few additional tools and received a number of tool donations from the community.



TOOL COLLECTION

DTL acquires and maintains a collection of tools for members to borrow. We strive to acquire the types of tools needed by our members and the broader community.

- ★ **90** tools added to collection.
- ★ **51%** of tools were donated, and **49%** of tools were purchased.
- ★ **519** total tools and tool sets available for borrowing.



Popular Tools



We also added more tool resources and hosted events, to help more members of our community create, maintain, and repair.



SUPPORTING RESOURCES

DTL aims to support safe, confident use of our tools. We strive to help folks learn how to use tools to create, maintain, and repair their things.

- ★ **519** tool records with tool guidance in our online catalog.
- ★ **2,774** visits to our tool pages in the tool catalog—a 27% increase over 2024.
- ★ **152** attendees over **5** events.
- ★ Hosted our third **repair café**.

Repair Café



To the:
Durango
Tool
Library!

From The Juniper School



Elementary Class Visits

2025 IN REVIEW

For a more detailed look at the performance and impact of the Durango Tool Library in 2025, this section considers the status of DTL operations, marketing, and finances.

OPERATIONS

The Durango Tool Library's operations are summarized by surveying performance in five areas: membership, tool borrows, tool collection, supporting resources, and tool maintenance. All five areas saw marked growth in 2025. We also include a brief summary of some operational accomplishments.

MEMBERSHIP

110 new members joined the tool library in 2025, for a total number of **314 members**—an increase of 54% to our membership. Tool library membership grew steadily throughout the year, with an average of 9 new members joining each month.

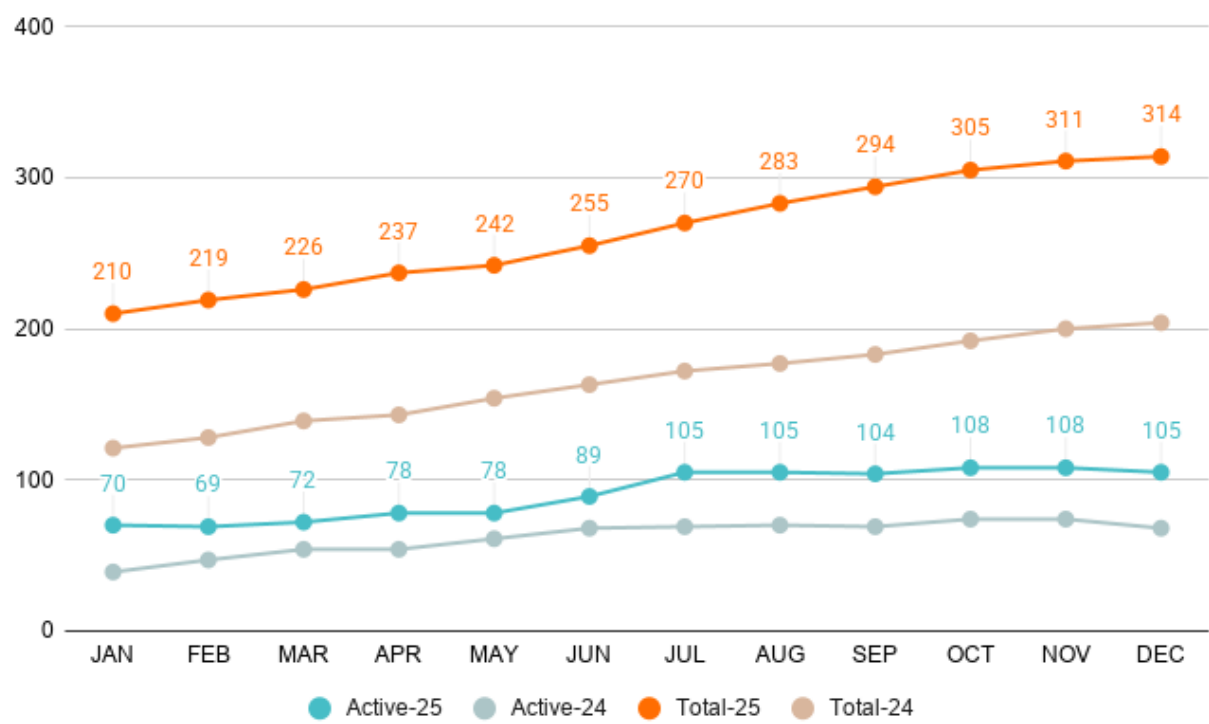
Of the 314 members, **199 members (63%) had active memberships** at some point in 2025. Active tool library memberships are defined as members who've paid membership subscription fees, as opposed to those with lapsed or inactive member subscriptions. Active members include members who joined in 2025, as well as those who joined in previous years (2021 through 2024) who've continued or paused then restarted their membership subscription.

**5,000th
Tool Borrow**



For the fourth year in a row, DTL membership grew steadily throughout the year. We set a new DTL record for number of monthly active members, with 108 members active in the Fall. This was 46% higher than the previous record of 74 monthly active members in Fall 2024. The following chart shows total and active members in 2025, alongside 2024 as a year-over-year comparison.

NUMBER OF ACTIVE MEMBERS & NUMBER OF TOTAL MEMBERS



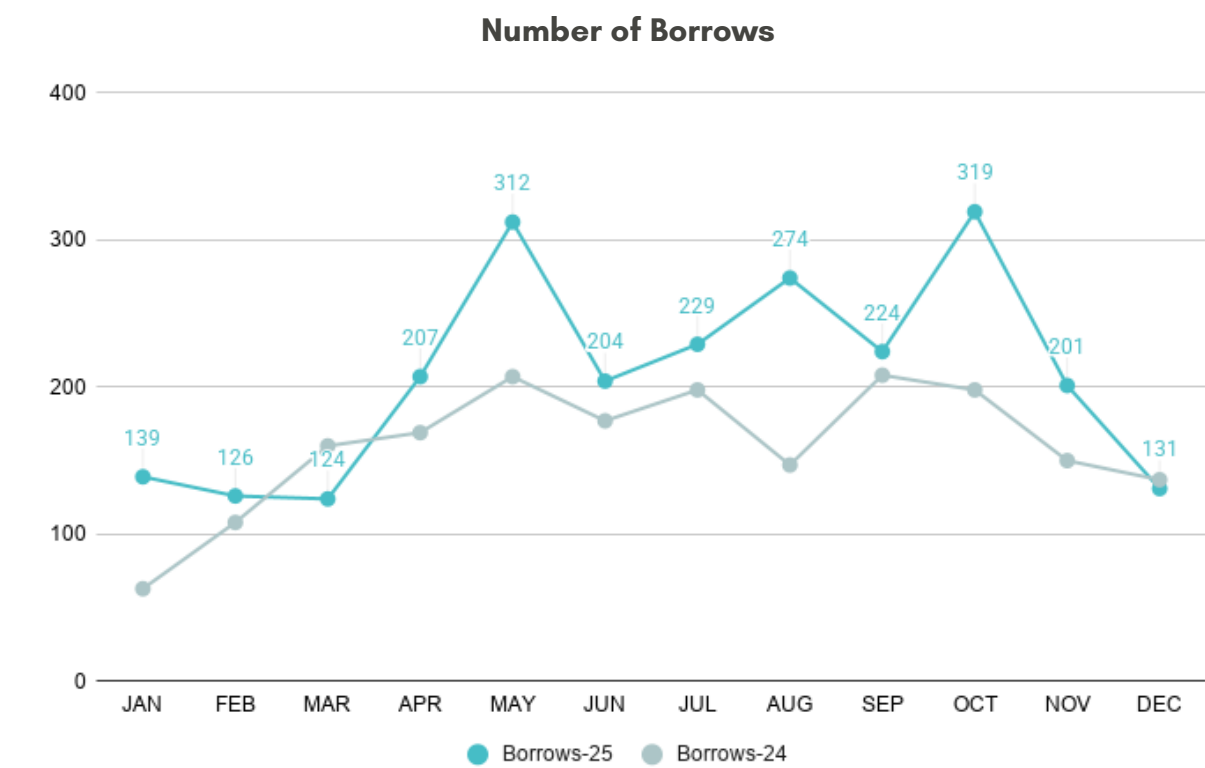
More members also returned to DTL in 2025, resubscribing and borrowing tools after as many as three years of pausing their membership. This has reinforced the importance of our flexible subscription model; members can pause and resubscribe when needed.

New DTL members include both renters and homeowners, with a notable number of members joining just after they have bought their first home. Some have joined after downsizing. Overall, new members are keen on borrowing tools instead of acquiring and storing tool collections of their own.

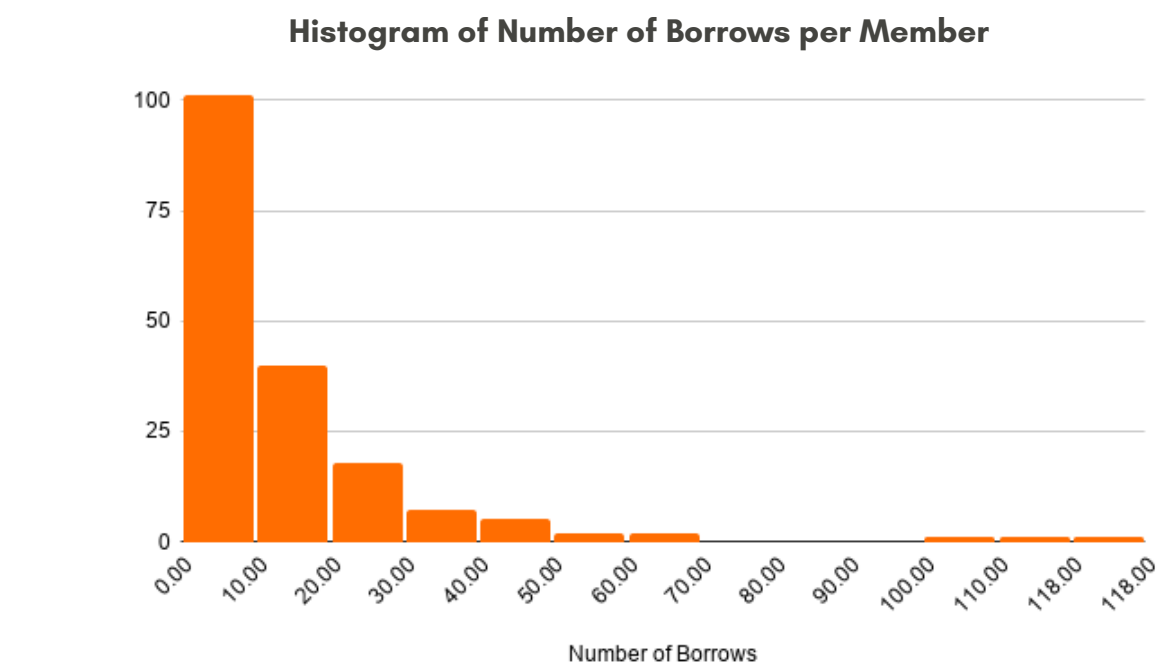
TOOL BORROWS

In 2025, members borrowed tools from the tool library **2,455 times**—a 29% increase over the previous year. Tools were borrowed throughout the entire year, with an average of **206 tools borrowed each month**.

Peaks in monthly tool borrows were more pronounced in 2025, with as many as **319 tools** borrowed a month. The following chart illustrates the number of tools borrowed each month, with 2024 included for year-over-year comparison. We also saw more sustained tool borrowing throughout the winter months.



Most DTL members (60%) are moderate tool borrowers, borrowing **ten or fewer tools** during a year. This underscores the value of our low monthly subscription rates; tool borrowing is a feasible, affordable option for those who only need a few tools. Very few DTL members borrow large numbers of tools.



The vast majority of DTL members are **repeat borrowers: 274 (87%)** DTL members have borrowed from DTL more than once. Most who give tool borrowing a try will opt to return and borrow tools again—to the tune of “Came for Miter Saw, Stayed for the Waffle Maker”, our most popular bumper sticker.

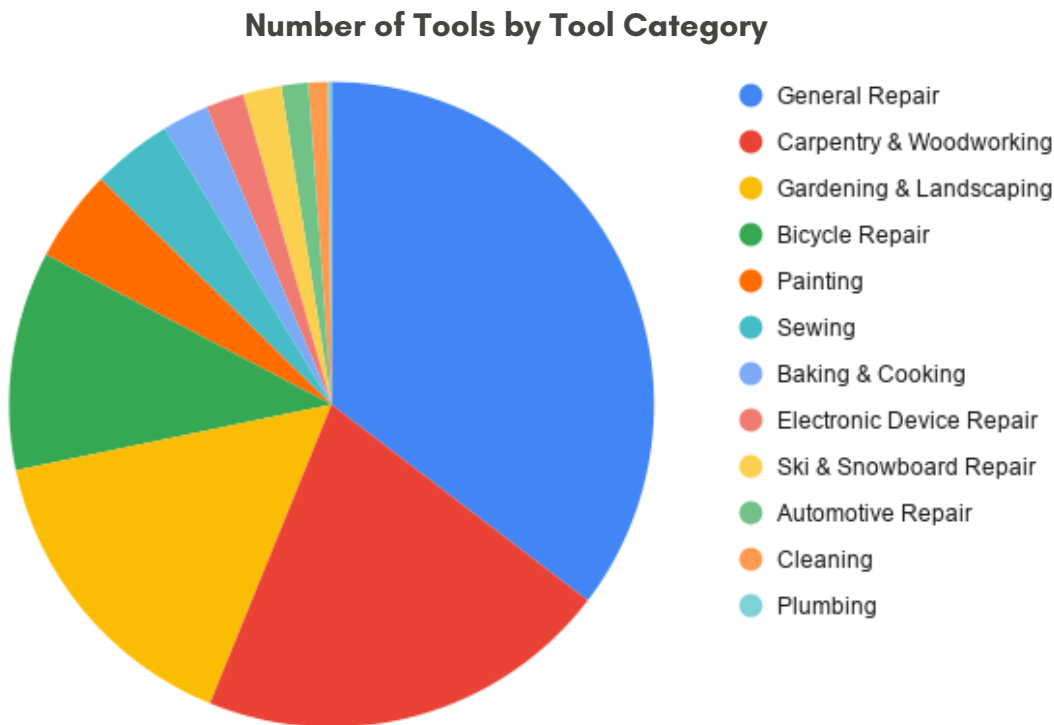
In 2025, tool borrowing continues to prove to be a significantly more affordable option for DTL members. By borrowing tools instead of buying their own, **members saved \$1,500** on average, with a range from \$50 to \$9,000 in savings. By keeping tool borrowing an affordable option, we hope to continue attracting new and retaining existing DTL members.



TOOL COLLECTION

In 2024, **90 tools were added** to the collection, for a **total inventory of 519** tools and tool sets.

We added one new category of tools in 2025: **Cleaning Tools** for carpet cleaners, pressure washers, vacuum cleaners, and more. Otherwise, we continued to grow the breadth and depth of the collection, with new flavors of tools and additional instances of our most popular tools.



51% of tools in the collection were donated. The other 49% we purchased new.

SUPPORTING RESOURCES

The tool library continued to provide resources to help guide members, and broader community, in learning how to use the tools they need. In 2025, we did not host any workshops as we focused our resources on growing the tool collection and catalog resources, as well as supporting members individually in learning how to use our tools.



Catalog: The online catalog identifies every tool in the tool collection, and offers information about what each tool is and how it should be used. Members reference the catalog records in deciding what tools they need and in executing their tasks. Interestingly, other web users from well beyond Durango have been referencing the catalog in their search for specific tool manuals.



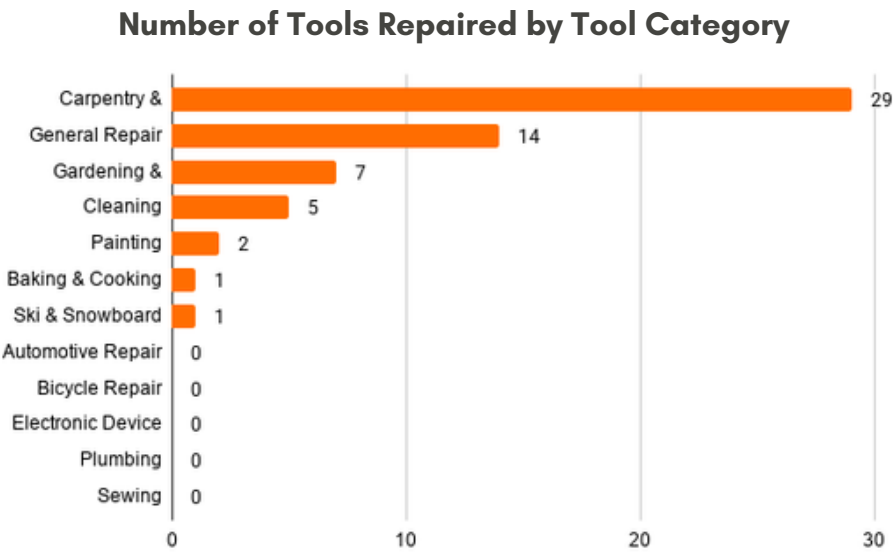
Community Events: We participated in several local events, and hosted our third repair café. With these events, we aimed to support and promote more sustainable practices locally.

- Repair cafés.
- Earth Day Durango booth.
- Elementary class tours.
- Bike to Work days.



TOOL MAINTENANCE

Each tool is cleaned and tested after being returned to the tool library. Any tools that require repair are removed from circulation until they are fixed. In 2025, we **repaired 59 tools**, helping to ensure the tools are safe to use and maximizing their useful lifespan.



OPERATIONAL WINS

In 2025, we tackled some changes behind-the-scenes with respect to how the tool library is managed. The most significant of these changes are highlighted below.

Purchased our space

We had been renting our space since 2021. Late in 2024, we learned that the owner planned to sell. In 2025, we managed to purchase the space. By securing a permanent space for DTL we are more confident we can ensure the tool library becomes a lasting resource for the Durango and SW Colorado community.



Updated accounting method

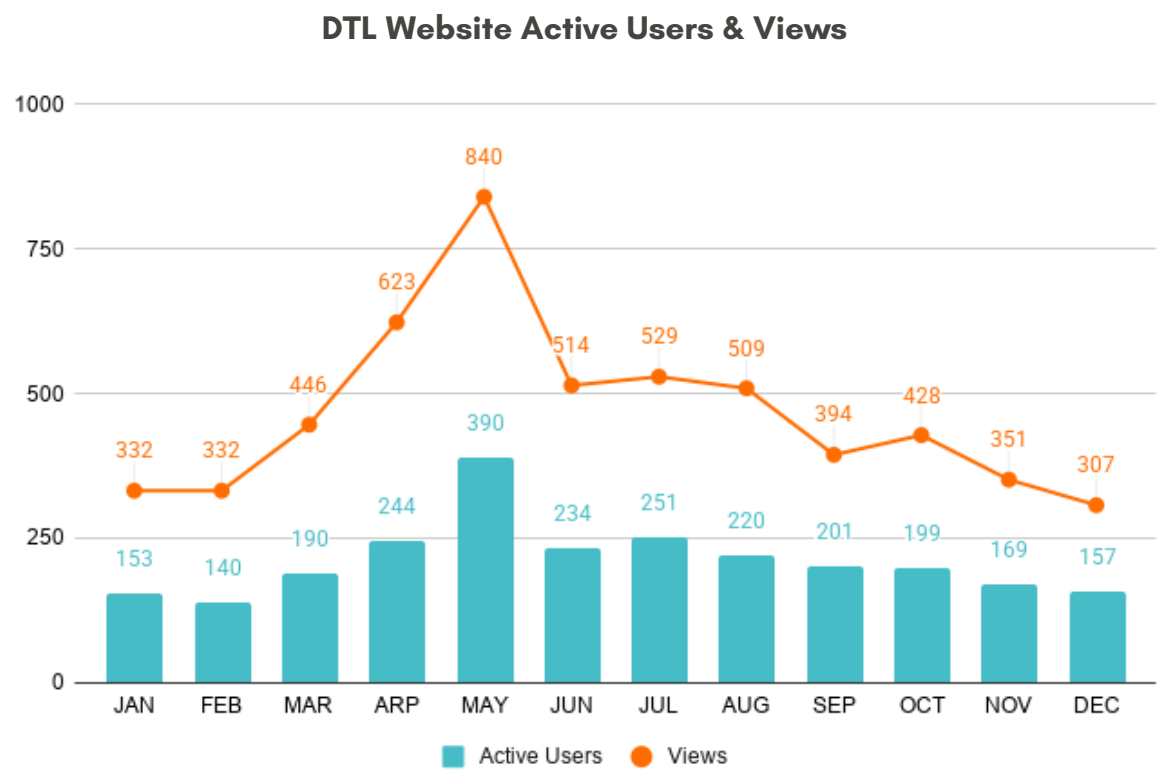
As we’ve grown our accounting have become more complex. In 2025, we upgraded our accounting method and began using accounting software. The update required significant changes to our chart of accounts and bookkeeping methods. Special thanks to three of our members who provided accounting guidance.

MARKETING

In 2025, we continued to iterate on our marketing strategies, shifting focus to more general advertising. Our goal: to continue establishing and reinforcing awareness of DTL.

To this end, we reduced our digital marketing, previously the focus of our marketing efforts, and expanded our local print advertising. We reduced our newsletter to a quarterly cadence, aiming to send fewer but more informative newsletters. We also published fewer social media posts, aiming to share more significant updates when we have them. Meanwhile, we increased the number of paid advertisements circulated in our local free newspaper, *The Telegraph*. We circulated advertisements through the Spring and Summer.

These advertisements corresponded with higher levels of web traffic on the DTL website. But especially for advertisements promoting our annual Repair Café, held in mid-May in 2025 and promoted in April and May. The Repair Café has proven to be a strong mechanism for driving web engagement and promoting awareness of DTL.



We also continue to see growth in the discovery of DTL through Google and other general web search engines. In 2025, site impressions and clicks on Google search increased by 30% and 19%, respectively. Previously, most of those who discovered DTL through web search were looking specifically for tool libraries in the area. Now, we are seeing far more people discover DTL through general searches for tools and tool rentals locally.

FINANCES

In 2025, the Durango Tool Library had \$29,600 in operating income and \$28,700 in operating expenses, for a net profit of \$900. This marks a 50% increase in net profit year-over-year.

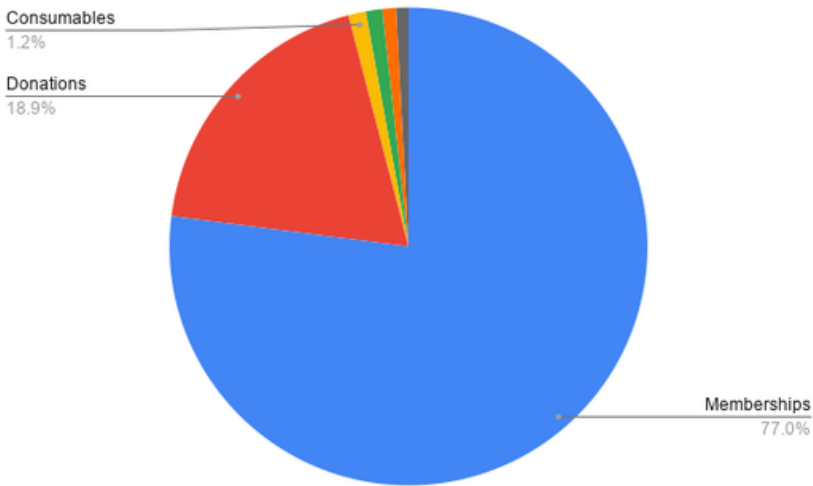
Operating income decreased 12% year-of-year. But that conceals an important area of growth. In 2024, we had significant grant income: \$17,000. We did not receive any grant income in 2025. Instead, our core source of income, Memberships, increased from \$15,000 in 2024 to \$22,800 in 2025 (+52%).

In total, we grew the tool collection by \$8,500, including tools we acquired and tools that were donated. We spent an additional \$800 on replacement parts to keep tools in circulation.

OPERATING INCOME

- Memberships: \$22,800
- Donations: \$5,600
- Consumables: \$350
- Gift Certificates: \$330
- Late Fees: \$270
- Merchandise: \$250

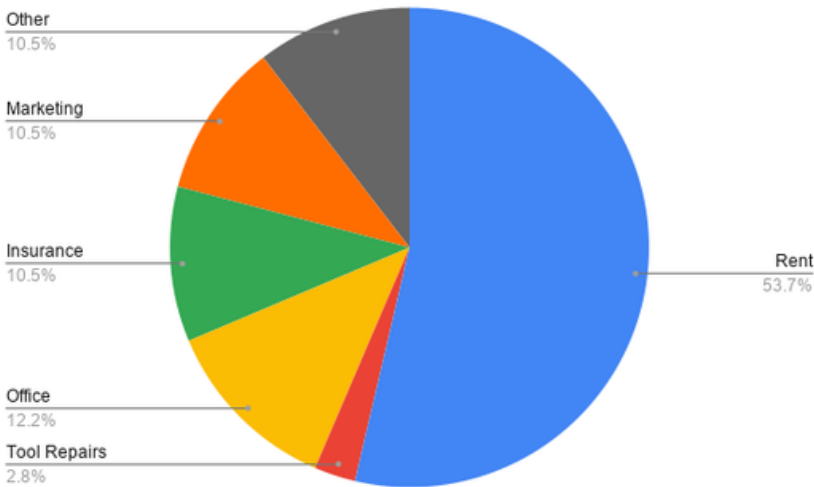
Total: \$29,600



OPERATING EXPENSES

- Rent: \$15,400
- Tool Repairs: \$800
- Office: \$3,500
- Insurance: \$3,000
- Marketing: \$3,000
- Other: \$3,000

Total: \$28,700



2026 FOCUS AREAS

This section summarizes a few areas that we will focus on in 2026. We hope that attention and investment in these areas will help further our growth, as we work towards a future where DTL can hire some helping hands, be open more often, and support more of the community—for years to come.

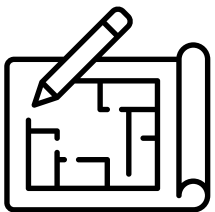
As DTL continues to grow, we need to continue to mature our operations to support a larger active membership. In 2025, we were able to keep pace with the number of members and volume of tool borrows. In 2026, we aim to establish the plans needed to scale the tool library to support more members and more tool borrows.

To this end, we plan to focus on:



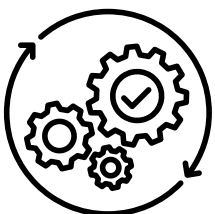
GROWING TOOL COLLECTION

We will continue to invest in our tool collection in 2026, to ensure sufficient numbers and varieties of tools. Based on community demand, we hope to acquire several larger tools in 2026, especially for fire mitigation and landscape projects, including brush cutters, wood chippers, and log splitters.



BUILD-OUT PLANNING

We need to improve our space to ensure we can store and manage the growing tool collection. Now that we are owners of our commercial unit, we plan to construct a second story mezzanine and workshop space. In 2026, we plan to begin by firming up designs, mapping out implementation phases, and budgeting for build-out expenses.



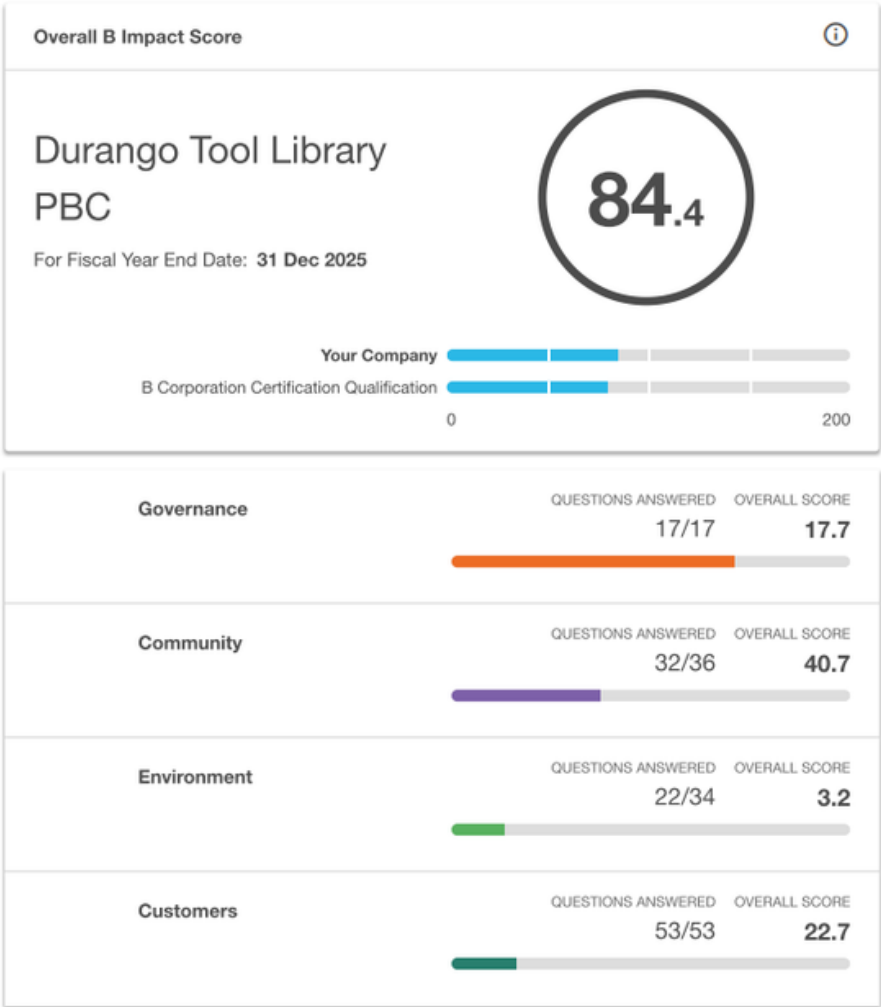
OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

We need to establish processes and plans for scaling operations. We are experimenting with using AI to automate menial tasks, like reporting. We will also be planning for future staffing, as we will need additional tool library assistants to support tool circulation, maintenance, and repairs.

APPENDIX A: BENEFIT REVIEW

As a PBC, we are required to use a third party standard to evaluate how well we execute on our mission and the benefits we strive to provide. We use the B Impact Assessment, provided by B Lab, as our third party standard.

For 2025, our B Impact Assessment score was 84.4 up from 75.6 in 2024 and 71.0 in 2023. Several of the benefits we provide—in particular, the impact of tool sharing on the environment, cost savings for customers, and access to tools and supporting resources for DIY projects—are not well reflected by the standard. As a result, we rely on the benefits highlighted earlier in this report as stronger indicators of our execution on our mission and benefits; specifically, membership growth and retention, tool borrow traffic, tool cost savings, embedded carbon savings, and diverted tool waste.



* APPENDIX B: EMBEDDED CARBON

In our 2025 Highlights, we introduce embedded carbon savings as a benefit of the tool library. Here, we provide definitions and explanations for how these values were calculated.

Embedded carbon is defined as the amount of carbon released in making a new instance of a tool. It includes the carbon released in extracting, transporting, and refining natural resources for use in manufacturing the tool. **Embedded carbon savings** is defined as the amount of embedded carbon saved by using an existing tool, instead of buying a new tool.

To calculate the embedded carbon for each tool in our inventory, we multiply the weight of the tool by its carbon emission factor. We refer to the carbon emission factors for common tool components defined by the Edinburgh Tool Library's [Carbon Calculator for Tool Libraries](#).

To calculate the embedded carbon savings, we multiply the embedded carbon for each tool by the number of *unique* tool borrows. A unique tool borrow counts each distinct tool borrowed by a member. Since the definition of embedded carbon savings assumes a tool is shared not purchased, we do not want to count multiple borrows of the same tool by the same person.

These calculations are an estimate. The carbon emission factors compiled by the Edinburgh Tool Library's calculator are approximations. And the calculation assumes that each tool borrowed would otherwise be bought. Further, the calculation does not account for other carbon emissions emitted during packaging, warehousing, and transporting the tools for consumers.

But, ultimately, the embedded carbon savings calculation demonstrates that sharing tools is a more sustainable practice than buying tools individually. It offers a useful proxy for gauging the impact of tool sharing on the environment, as a result.