

Patron Code of Conduct Policy

The Library staff and the Board of Trustees have adopted these rules to protect the safety of staff and patrons and ensure that all can enjoy the library to the fullest extent. The policy applies to the Library building, grounds, and parking areas (the “premises”):

While on Library premises, all patrons shall conduct themselves so that they will not interfere, by their actions or speech, with the rights of others.

- Patrons shall comply with reasonable requests of the Library staff.
- Patrons shall refrain from using inappropriate language and gestures, bullying, and other disruptive behaviors.
- Patrons shall not engage in alcohol use (except for refreshments served to those 21 and over during designated library-sponsored events) or drug use, sale, or exchange.
- Patrons shall not be on the premises in an intoxicated state.
- Per NY State law, patrons may not smoke in the building or within 100 feet of the building. This includes cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and devices that produce smoke, i.e., electronic cigarettes, vapors and water pipes.
- Cellular telephones or other electronic devices should be muted or used with headphones so as not to disturb other patrons or Library staff.
- Patrons should engage in phone and video conversations in the lobby or private area where they will not disturb others.
- Patrons using their own computers must comply with the Library’s Internet Policy.
- Handouts, flyers and other materials shall not be distributed to the public or posted without the permission of an authorized member of the Library staff.
- Education Law NYS §264 forbids the vandalism or defacement of Library property. Patrons shall not vandalize, steal, or destroy Library property.
- Staff work areas are restricted to Library staff and authorized volunteers. Patrons shall not enter the staffs’ work areas without express invitation and permission from an authorized member of the Library staff.
- Patrons should not leave personal items unattended, and the library is not liable for lost or damaged personal property.

The Library reserves the right to inspect the contents of any bag, knapsack or briefcase that a patron wishes to bring onto library premises.

Failure to comply with these rules, with or without the intent to disturb others, shall constitute annoying or harassing behavior, and may result in short- or long-term loss of Library privileges.

This Code of Conduct is not intended to be a complete list of violations. The Library reserves the right to take action against any behavior which can reasonably be deemed offensive or disturbing. The Library staff is authorized to expel any person who does not follow the above rules. Law

Enforcement will be contacted if an individual does not exit the Library premises when told to do so by Library staff.

Revised and approved July 2024