

## **Conduct of Patrons on Library Premises**

A Public Library is created for the use of every member of the community. The Public Library provides a place for reading, study and enrichment. All staff members have the responsibility to keep the Library as pleasant and safe an environment as possible. This includes discouraging and handling behavior that disrupts others.

Conduct of patrons in the Library shall be governed by the rules and regulations set forth below.

Any person who violates the Library rules and regulations shall be denied the privilege of access to the library. All staff members have the right to deny access to the Library if in their judgment, these policies have been abused. Access to the Library may be reinstated at the Library Director's discretion.

1. Patrons are expected to respect the Library and its property. Patrons shall not deface or mar books, magazines, or other items of the Library collections, nor shall they deface, mar, or in any way destroy or damage Library furnishings, walls, computers, machines or other Library property.
2. All Library materials which are to be removed from the building must be checked out. Theft or attempted theft of Library materials may be cause for prosecution.
3. Patrons are expected to dress appropriately while on Library premises. Shirts and shoes are required while on Library premises.
4. Patrons are expected to talk quietly. Excessive socializing is inappropriate and will be discouraged. Joint study participants are cautioned to converse softly and may be asked to relocate if their activity disturbs others.
5. Patrons shall not interfere with the use of the Library by other patrons or interfere with Library employees' performance of their duties. Running, fighting, roughhousing, vulgarity, or displaying disruptive behavior is not permitted in the Library, including the rear deck. The use of alcohol and other drugs is not permissible on Library premises.
6. Library entrances, exits, doorways and aisles, are to be kept clear of obstructions at all times for the safety of patrons and staff. A limited number of strollers may be permitted in the Children's Room at the discretion of the staff member in charge.
7. Animals, with the exception of certified seeing-eye or therapy dogs, are not permitted inside the Library. Animals shall be attended at all times while on Library premises.

8. Talking on cell phones, smoking, eating and drinking, other than at the water fountain, are prohibited in the Library. Bottles for infants are allowed.
9. Personal audio systems with headphones may be used at a level which is not audible to others. Sports equipment (skateboards, roller blades, etc.) shall not be brought onto Library premises.
10. The Library assumes no responsibility for lost or stolen property.
11. Parents are responsible for the safety of their children. The Library takes no responsibility for the safety of children left unattended. Parents must supervise their children, including in the public rest rooms. Diapers may be changed only in the rest rooms.
12. Parents of children attending preschool programs are required to remain on library premises during the program.
13. Parents are expected to be aware of the Library's hours of operation and to pick up young people prior to closing. In the event a child is left after the Library is closed, the Florida Village or State Police may be contacted to provide supervision.
14. It is the responsibility of the staff of the Library to assist patrons with their information needs. It is the responsibility of parents to provide supervision for their children while on Library premises.
15. The Temporary Safety Practices Policy requiring the wearing of face masks and social distancing will be in effect during government ordered states of emergency and/or Public Health emergencies. All Library staff have the authority to deny entrance to individuals not in compliance with the policy.

Approved by the Board of Trustees  
May 5, 1997

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