Patron Behavior Policy

The purpose of the Patron Behavior Policy is to maintain a safe and pleasant environment for all library patrons as well as all library staff members. It also ensures access to library facilities and the protection of the library collection, equipment, and facility.

Prohibitions:

Prohibited conduct includes any illegal activity and may include, but is not limited to the following on all library premises and branch locations:

1. Willfully annoying, harassing, or threatening another person.
2. Consuming alcohol or controlled substances, being intoxicated, smoking, vaping, or using tobacco products.
3. Using or defacing the library building, furniture, or equipment in a manner that could cause harm to self, patrons, staff, or personal or public property.
4. Soliciting, fundraising or selling or posting notices without permission from library staff.
5. Behaving in a loud, boisterous or disruptive manner. Fighting or threatening to fight, running, pushing, shoving, or throwing things.
6. Leaving unattended personal items in the building. The library assumes no responsibility for lost, stolen, or unattended personal items. Items left longer than 30 minutes may be discarded by library staff.
7. Entering non-public areas unless accompanied by a library staff member or through prior authorization from a staff member.
8. Having offensive hygiene, odor, or scent that constitutes a nuisance to other persons.
9. Failing to exit the building at closing or not following directions from staff members during an emergency.
10. Use of cell phone, tablets, or other electronic devices that become too loud and disruptive of others on library property.
11. Leaving children unattended or out of sight of a responsible caregiver at any time including during library programs.

Consequences for Violations:

1. Violators will receive a verbal warning and an opportunity to cease inappropriate behavior.
2. Repeat violations may result in suspension of library privileges for a minimum of 24 hours.
3. Continued violation will result in a longer suspension of library privileges including possible banning from the library for a lengthy duration that could result in permanently denied services.
4. Patrons receiving a written notice of suspension of library privileges due to a violation of the Patron Behavior Policy may within ten (10) days appeal the ruling by written petition to the Library Director, which should include the complainant's full name, mailing address, phone number, and statement of complaint. The Library Director will respond back in writing on the decision made.
5. If the complainant is still not satisfied, the Library Director will present the complaint to the Library Board of Control. The decision of the Board of Control will be final. The President of the Library Board of Control will report the Board's decision to the complainant in writing.

Special Note: Local law enforcement will be called immediately if any given situation warrants.

Approved by Library Board on May 18, 2022