

FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY PATRON CODE OF CONDUCT

Our library is supported by the taxes of the citizens who have a right to expect our library to be a clean, pleasant, and safe place for selecting materials, reading, studying, researching, writing, and attending community or library-sponsored programs and meetings.

This Code of Conduct is intended to encourage behavior that supports the library's mission to provide the best possible resources in a warm, welcoming environment. Behavior which interferes with this mission, impinges on the rights of others, causes damage to buildings or equipment, or is hazardous to self or others is unacceptable. Those unable to comply will be asked to leave. If necessary, the authorities will be called.

The Board has adopted the following policies as acceptable standards of behavior for our library.

The use of cell phones and other electronic devices shall not disturb the business of the library or patrons. Headphones are encouraged for all audio.

Non-nut food is allowed at the tables only, with permission of the Community Library staff. Closed top, non-nut beverages are allowed, but not at the computers.

Smoking is not allowed in the Library.

Personal belongings are not the responsibility of the Library staff and should always be attended.

Animals are not permitted in the library, with the exception of service animals as defined by ADA 28 C.F.R. §36.104 or those authorized by prior arrangement.

Appropriate dress, including shoes and shirts, must be worn in the library.

Weapons are not permitted in the library.

Selling or soliciting for contributions is prohibited, except as authorized.

Patrons are expected to abide by federal, state, and local laws, ordinances and regulations. Anyone found to be in violation of such will be reported to the proper authorities.

Disruptive behavior is prohibited. Disruptive behavior consists of actions which are illegal, or which infringe upon the rights of others using the library or disturb the tranquility of the library, or the proper activities of its staff and patrons. Such behavior may include, but is not limited to:

- a. Unauthorized removal or attempted removal of materials;
- b. Being in an unauthorized area;
- c. Mutilation, defacement, of library property;
- d. Obscene, or abusive language or acts directed at other patrons or the staff of the Library;
- e. Possession or use of alcohol or illegal drugs or any attempted or actual sale of them;
- f. Intoxication or impairment;
- g. Inappropriate use of furniture, library equipment and facilities..
- h. Sleeping and offensive bodily hygiene;
- i. Harassing or threatening others;

- j. Failing to evacuate in an emergency or during drill;
- k. Lewd behavior or sexual misconduct including exposure, offensive touching or sexual harassment of other patrons or staff;
- l. Loud or boisterous behavior.
- m. Refusing to surrender a computer after one's time limit is up;
- n Any action that is willfully intended to annoy another person.

Source: As recommended by Rob Geiszler, Library Development Consultant for the Vermont Department of Libraries. May, 2010.

Approved by the Fairfax Community Library Joint committee 1/8/15