

Patron Behavior Policy

Adopted by the Provincetown Public Library Board of Library Trustees on May 11, 2009

Revised & approved by Provincetown Public Library Board of Library Trustees on March 21, 2018

Revised & approved by Provincetown Public Library Board of Library Trustees on July 19, 2023

Everyone has an equal right to access library services and facilities, but no person has the right to interfere with the ability of others to use and enjoy library resources, services, and facilities.

The Library is responsible for establishing rules of conduct to protect the rights and safety of Library patrons, volunteers, and staff, and for preserving and protecting the Library's materials, equipment, facilities, and grounds.

Library staff will intervene to stop prohibited activities and behaviors. Failure to comply with the Library's established rules, regulations, and policies may result in removal from the premises and expulsion from the Library for a period of one day to one year. If Library staff asks patron to stop a violating behavior more than once in one day the patron will be asked to leave for the remainder of the day. Violations may also result in the restriction and/or termination of Library privileges. Expulsion for more than one month may be appealed in writing to the Board of Library Trustees.

For the comfort and safety of patrons, volunteers, and staff, and the protection of Library property, the following actions are examples of conduct not allowed on Library property:

Engaging in any activity in violation of Federal, State, local or other applicable law, or Library policy.

Carrying firearms and dangerous weapons of any type (except by law enforcement officers).

Being under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Verbally or physically threatening or harassing other patrons, volunteers, or staff.

Soliciting or conducting surveys not previously approved by the Library.

Stealing, damaging, altering, or inappropriate use of Library property.

Fighting or challenging to fight, running, pushing, shoving, or throwing things.

Creating disruptive noises including cell phone and headphone use.
Using restrooms for bathing or shampooing, doing laundry.

Smoking (including vaping and e-cigarettes), chewing, and other tobacco use in Library facilities or within 20 feet of the entrances.

Entering the Library barefooted, and/or without a shirt.

Consuming food or beverages in the computer areas of the Library.

Bringing in items that impede the use of the library by other users.

Using skateboards, roller-skates, roller blades, bicycles, and shopping carts in Library property or on Library grounds.

Lying down or sleeping in the Library.

Neglecting to provide proper supervision of children.

All bags and other articles are subject to inspection by Library Staff. The Library reserves the right to limit the size and number of items brought into the Library.

Well-behaved dogs are permitted in the Library but must be on a physical leash and under the control of the owner at all times.

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