

PATRON CONDUCT POLICY

Rochester Public Library actively seeks to be a friendly and welcoming place. Patrons are expected to uphold that atmosphere by refraining from negative behaviors. Library staff are expected to guide the behavior of patrons when necessary, in order to maintain the desired atmosphere. Children, especially, may be unfamiliar with what constitutes appropriate library behavior, and staff provides guidance to both children and parents as needed.

Specific behavioral expectations are communicated to patrons when deemed necessary by the library staff. If negative behaviors persist, staff may choose to request that patrons depart the premises. Assistance from law enforcement may be requested at any time that Library staff are not comfortable with primary responsibility for the situation.

Specific behavioral expectations include, but are not limited to:

1. Patrons are expected to conduct themselves courteously at all times.
2. Patrons are responsible for cleaning and/or replacement costs if consuming food or drink in the library proper.
3. Patrons' attire is expected to reflect good judgment, as in any other public place.
4. Shoes and shirt must be worn when in the library.
5. Footwear with rollers, metal, cleats or other traction devices may not be worn within the Library.
6. Alcohol is not allowed on the premises.
7. Smoking is not allowed inside the building or within 15 feet of a building entrance.
8. Recreational drugs are prohibited.
9. Solicitation or distribution of commercial promotional materials is not allowed.
10. Noise levels should not become disruptive to other patrons.
11. Animals that are not guide animals are prohibited when their presence has not been requested by Library staff.
12. Patrons are expected to depart the premises at or before closing times.
13. Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied in the library by a responsible person age 13 or older.

Adopted: 11/2001
Revised 7/2009
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