

Patron Behavior Policy, *Extended Version*

The Lawrence Public Library welcomes all to use our facilities for the purposes of learning, working, socializing and entertainment. In order to ensure that the library facilities are clean, comfortable, and safe places for community use, some activities or items are prohibited. For the purpose of this policy, the library is defined as the building, the grounds, and the parking lot.

Behavior that is disruptive to the work of library staff or to other patrons' use of the library is not permitted. Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Running, pushing, shoving and similar behavior
- Excessive noise or yelling
- Verbally or physically harassing others

Activities or items that are illegal, could damage library facilities or property, or could threaten the health or safety of library staff or patrons are not permitted. Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Use or possession of alcohol or illegal drugs
- Use of tobacco products/vaping within 15 feet of Library entrance
- Possession of weapons (except for law enforcement personnel)
- Misusing, damaging, or stealing library materials, furniture or equipment
- Bringing food and beverages into unauthorized areas
- Bringing animals into the building (other than service animals)
- Unattended children (refer to the library's Child Safety Policy)
- Use of sports equipment indoors (please drop off your sports equipment at the front desk)
- Improper attire (shoes and shirt are required)

Any activity that does not fit in with the library's purpose of being a safe place for learning, working, socializing and entertainment is not permitted. Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Sleeping or lounging in any area of the library or the grounds
- Using restrooms for bathing or doing laundry
- Petitioning, soliciting, or distributing materials directly to patrons without permission

Consequences of violating this policy are at the discretion of the library staff. Depending on the nature of the violation, consequences could include a warning to stop the prohibited behavior, suspension of specific privileges (such as computer use), or being banned from the library for a specified period of time or indefinitely. If a patron refuses to follow the policy and refuses to leave the library, the library staff may contact the police. In situations where the library staff feels that the health or safety of library patrons or staff is threatened, s/he may take any appropriate action, including calling in law enforcement officials or an ambulance.

If a patron is banned from the library or has privileges revoked, library staff will complete an Incident Report Form to keep on file. Appeals relating to suspension of library privileges or being banned from the premises may be made to the Library Administration.