

Patron Behavior Policy

Purpose: This policy is to protect the rights of individuals who are in the library to use materials or services, to assist library staff members in conducting library business efficiently and to preserve library materials, equipment, and facilities.

Statement of Policy

Since the library is a public space, customers are expected to use the library, including its facilities, grounds, resources, and materials, in a responsible, appropriate and courteous manner. Illegal acts or conduct in violation of Federal, State, or local laws, ordinances or regulations are prohibited. This includes displaying obscene or sexually explicit materials or Internet sites in violation of 18 Pa. Cons. Stat. Sec 5903. Behavior that disturbs or infringes on the rights of other library patrons and staff, and which damages library materials and property, is not permitted. This policy applies to patrons of all ages.

By entering the C. C. Mellor Memorial Library you are making a commitment to act courteously toward other persons here; act respectfully with regard to property; and follow the rules of the facility. Enjoy the library and allow others the same opportunity.

Behavior Expectations

Please observe the following:

- Keep all valuables and personal property with you at all times. The library is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- Supervise children at all times.
- Follow library computer policies.
- Use your own valid library card for computer use.
- Make and receive cell phone calls in designated locations, such as the lobby or outside. Turn your phone to a non-audible signal when in the library.
- Use personal headphones with volume set at a reasonable level while listening to computers or pdas.
- Engage in activities associated with the use of a public library. Customers not reading, studying, using library materials or attending events may be asked to leave the building.
- Wear appropriate attire for being in a public place.

In order to provide a safe and comfortable environment, the following are examples of what is not permitted in the library and on its grounds:

- Destruction of library materials or property.
- Congregating around other computer users.
- Using a library card other than your own to use computers or borrow materials.
- Viewing sexually explicit images on a computer.
- Use of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Disorderly, disruptive or boisterous conduct.

- Threatening, harassing, offensive or intimidating language or behavior towards other customers or library staff.
- Food or uncovered beverages.
- Smoking and use of tobacco products.
- Sleeping.
- Weapons.
- Bathing or shaving in public restrooms.
- Solicitation of any type.

Noncompliance

In order to ensure that the library environment is safe, pleasant and orderly the library reserves the right to:

- Inspect all backpacks, book bags, satchels, and briefcases.
- Confiscate and dispose of any food or beverages brought into the library.
- Limit the number of persons who may sit together at a table, computer or casual sitting area.
- Separate members of a group from one another or relocate an individual.
- Impose limits on the continuous use of library resources.
- Require customer to furnish commonly accepted forms of identification such as a driver's license or student id.
- Request that a customer leave.

Individuals demonstrating disruptive behavior may be required to leave the library after one warning from library staff. Exclusion from the library may be for the day, a specified period of time, or permanently. Anyone who refuses to comply with a staff member's request to leave will be considered a trespasser. Library staff will call the local police department at times when staff deems this to be necessary or prudent. Appropriate law enforcement will be notified of any unlawful activity.

A customer whose privileges have been denied may have the decision reviewed by the Board of Trustees. The request should be made within thirty days, in writing, and addressed to the Board President.

Adopted: September 24, 2009