

Patron Code of Conduct

The Skaneateles Library Board of Trustees is committed to ensuring a positive environment that enables staff to provide excellent service to all patrons. Promoting and maintaining an atmosphere in which patron behavior is non-intrusive to others and library resources are protected is critical to that endeavor.

No individual or group has the right to interfere with or disrupt another person's use of library resources or to be abusive to library staff or patrons. Conduct is unacceptable when it could result in injury to oneself or others, when it interferes with another person's use of the library, when it is harassing or intimidating, when it violates the law or when it could result in loss or damage to library or patron property.

Persons failing to follow the library's code of conduct may be asked to leave the premises. The police will be notified immediately if a person is asked to leave and refuses to do so or if a person's conduct threatens harm to others. When deemed appropriate by the Director, violation of the library's code of conduct may result in suspension of library privileges.

Prohibited conduct includes but is not limited to:

- Use of alcohol or illegal drugs on library property
- Smoking or use of tobacco products on library property
- Running, fighting or throwing objects
- Bathing in library restrooms
- Harassing or intimidating conduct toward staff or patrons
- Possession of any weapon on library property by any person, except a duly authorized local, state or federal law enforcement officer
- Having offensive bodily hygiene or odor that constitutes a nuisance to others
- Disturbing others by engaging in disruptive activity
- Solicitation, except for sanctioned library activities (solicitation includes but is not limited to actions such as selling items, begging, circulating petitions, distributing printed material or conducting surveys)

Other Patron Guidelines:

- Patrons may consume food or beverages in designated areas. Beverages must be covered and food contained. The library reserves the right to curtail this privilege if it is not in the best interests of the library.
- Patrons who are visibly intoxicated or under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be asked to leave the library.
- Any use of cameras and recording devices in the library building must be authorized by the Director.

APPROVED POLICY of the SKANEATELES LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

- Parents and/or guardians are responsible for their children's conduct while children are on library property.
- Vandalism to library property will result in suspension of library privileges and may result in criminal prosecution.
- Appropriate apparel, including shoes and shirts, must be worn while in the library.
- If the conduct of a patron causes a staff member or others to feel unsafe or uncomfortable, that patron may be asked to leave at the discretion of library staff.

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