

RICHLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIBRARY STANDARDS OF PATRON BEHAVIOR

To better serve all library users, the Library Board of Trustees has established certain standards of acceptable behavior to ensure a positive, welcoming, clean, and safe environment conducive to library use.

Behavior becomes unacceptable when it impinges on the rights of others. Unacceptable behavior includes any form of harassment that could result in physical, emotional, or mental injury to oneself or others, or actions that could result in damage to the facilities, equipment or materials.

Other examples of unacceptable behavior include but are not limited to:

- Abandonment or leaving of young children unattended
- Behavior or language that is offensive to others
- Bringing pets into the library (service animals are allowed)
- Entering library without shirt or shoes
- Excessive noise or language that disturbs others including use of cell phones and other personal devices
- Harassment, physical, sexual, or verbal abuse, in any form, of other library users or library staff
- Intoxication
- Illegal activities within the library or on library grounds
- Loitering
- Smoking and vapor cigarettes in the building or within 25 feet of entrances and book drops
- Soliciting
- Unruly or offensive behavior
- Using library computer equipment for purposes other than those permitted under the Computer Resources Access and Internet Safety Policy, or performing any act that damages or disables computer hardware or software

Patrons behaving in an unacceptable manner will be asked to modify their behavior or, upon failure to do so, to leave the library facility. Police will be called if there is not compliance, or if staff feels in any way unable to handle the situation.

Failure to follow the directions of library staff when directed, to abide by these rules or other specific instructions, will result in permanent expulsion from the library

Food and beverages may be consumed in the Lobby areas, and at special events. Consuming beverages from lidded containers is permitted in the Library. Lidded containers may include covered coffee, water, soda, juice boxes, glass and plastic beverage bottles. The second floor has been designated a QUIET ZONE and patrons will be asked to limit conversation, including use of cell phones.

RICHLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library reminds patrons that libraries are public places where each person must assume responsibility for his or her safety, the safety of their children and the safety of personal belongings.

Adopted by the Richland Public Library Board, September 2, 1987

Amended: December 4, 2003

Amended: July 2010

Amended: September 2, 2014