



Standards of Acceptable Behavior

Dangerous, destructive or illegal conduct, including but not limited to the following is not permitted:

- Violations of any local, state, or federal law.
- Displaying weapons.
- Physical abuse or assault of other customers or staff.
- Fighting.
- Threats.
- Stalking.
- Harassment.
- Engaging in or soliciting any sexual act including flashing, unwanted physical contact, touching, petting or sexually-oriented gestures, sounds or comments.
- Using or distributing controlled substances.
- Intoxication or drunken behavior.
- Using verbal or written abuse, i.e., obscene language or discriminatory remarks.

Customers displaying these behaviors will be instructed to leave the Library immediately. Police will be called. All Library privileges may be suspended without notice based on the severity of the situation in accordance with the Free Library's Expulsion policy.

Please be respectful of others...

Conduct including but not limited to the following activities is not permitted:

- Displaying disturbing images including, but not restricted to, the display of sexually explicit materials on computers, tablets, or cell phones. Library staff is authorized to determine whether a customer is disturbing others.
- Creating noise that disturbs others. Cell phones may be used quietly.

- Soliciting, petitioning, distributing or posting material without library approval.
- Trespassing in nonpublic areas or defiant trespassing.
- Sleeping, loitering, smoking, panhandling or gambling.
- Animals are not permitted unless they are assisting disabled persons or for approved programing.
- Vandalizing or theft of materials and property.
- All library materials must be checked out before being taken from the reading areas.
- Shaving, bathing, or washing of clothes or hair.
- Consuming food, except on approved occasions in designated areas. Beverages in covered containers are permitted.
- Not wearing shoes or a shirt.
- Having personal hygiene that is offensive or that constitutes a nuisance to others.
- Blocking or impeding access to interior or exterior walkways, entrances, and common areas, physically or with large items.
- Bags and other materials which are difficult to inspect because of the nature of the items are not allowed in the building. Oversized bags and articles that could be used to conceal library property are subject to inspection.
- Engaging in activities not associated with the use of the library. Patrons should be reading, studying, using library resources or attending a program or class.

Be Safe:

- Parents or caregivers are responsible for their child's safety and behavior.
- Children under 7 years old must be supervised by a parent or responsible caregiver at all times.
- Please keep your belongings secure. The library cannot assume responsibility for your possessions.
- Library cards may only be used by the authorized owner of the card. Cards may not be shared with friends or family members.

Approved by the Board of Trustees of the Free Library of Philadelphia (March 9, 1993; updated September 18, 2002; revisions approved November 9, 2004; additional revisions November 7, 2016).