

GREENVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Patron Code of Conduct

In order to insure constructive use of Library facilities, materials, and services as well as the safety and personal comfort of all our library patrons and staff, the following Code of Conduct will be in effect at all times. Anyone who violates the Code of Conduct may be removed from the library properties and/or prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The Library has the right to amend the Code of Conduct at any time.

1. Appropriate behavior is required at all times, and patrons shall be engaged in activities associated with the use of a public library. Reasonable quiet is expected. No patron may disturb others using the library.
2. Please contain your use of the library in public areas only. Patrons found in non-public areas will be handled as trespassers.
3. Please do not bring food and beverages into the building. If you are observed with such, you will be asked to surrender it immediately. Refreshments may be provided during meetings or approved library programs.
4. Misconduct such as the use of foul, offensive or threatening language and gestures; harassment; public drunkenness; use, sale or exchange of alcohol or drugs; gambling; loud talking and laughing; running, pushing, and fighting; and other similar offensive/illegal behavior are not allowed on Library property and are grounds for immediate removal from the premises and notification to the police. The Library has the right to prohibit groups from congregating in the building or on the grounds. In addition, sleeping, staring, stalking, bullying, soliciting, loitering, lewd or indecent behavior, smoking, stealing, sexual misconduct, littering, weapons, and damaging property are prohibited.
5. A library patron who vandalizes, steals, defaces, or destroys any library material, equipment or building components will forfeit all library privileges, will be subject to financial liability for damages, and may be subject to criminal penalties.
6. Patrons shall be fully clothed, including footwear. Patrons whose bodily hygiene is offensive such that it disturbs others shall be required to leave the building. (New York State Penal Code, Section 240.20 states: creating a physically offensive condition, including disturbing odors or infested clothing or personal effects.)
7. Parking on library property is reserved for patrons in the building. Cars parked illegally will be towed.
8. The Library assumes no responsibility for the care and supervision of children. Parents or caregivers must supervise the behavior of their children. Additionally, children under the age of 8 must be supervised at all times.
9. Pets are not permitted in the library except for properly identified service animals or for programming purposes. However, any animal whose behavior poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others will be excluded from the building.
10. Any patron who deliberately alters a library computer database or destroys computer equipment will be subject to financial liability for damages.
11. In accordance with New York State law, the library is a smoke-free establishment and there shall be no smoking, vaping, or juuling on Library property.
12. Using cellular phones, pagers, or other electronic devices in a manner that disturbs others is prohibited. Patrons wishing to use headphones for instructional or recreational purposes should do so without disrupting patrons near them.

13. Patrons are encouraged to report disruptive individuals to the staff.
14. Patron concerns should be brought to the attention of the library director.
15. All briefcases, oversized handbags, carryalls, luggage, packages, overcoats, and shopping bags are subject to inspection by library staff. If patrons refuse such inspection, they will be asked to remain until the authorities can be called to conduct such an inspection. The storage of personal items in the library or on library grounds is prohibited and personal belongings should not be left unattended.

Any patron who violates these rules and regulations may be required to vacate the library premises and may be denied the privilege of access to the library or borrowing privileges by the staff person in charge. A patron whose privileges have been denied may have the decision reviewed by the Board of Trustees, after a written appeal is submitted to the Greenville Public Library Board of Trustees by the patron.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees February 25, 1997
Revised by the Board of Trustees November 14, 2018