

BOARD POLICIES

PATRON CODE OF CONDUCT

Approved: May 6, 1996

Revised: May 27, 2009, September 30, 2020, October 30, 2024

It is the mission of the Rocky River Public Library to provide a safe, comfortable, and welcoming space for our community. The Library requires appropriate behavior from everyone while on Library property and does not permit disruptive behavior or any behavior that endangers the safety of Library patrons and staff.

Be Kind and courteous.

- Use polite language and respectful behavior with others.
- Use your devices quietly so you do not disturb others and be mindful of areas designated as quiet areas.
- If you have questions or concerns about the behavior of another patron, talk with staff rather than addressing it directly with the other patron.

Respect the facilities.

- Use the Library materials, space, equipment, and furniture, with respect and care.
- Share the space, equipment, and furniture and avoid monopolizing or obstructing access for others by keeping walkways, doors, and stairs clear.
- Keep beverages covered and only bring small snack foods to the Library. Pick up crumbs, throw away wrappers, and avoid eating or drinking at computer workstations.
- While using technology in the Library, please follow the law and only view things that are appropriate in a public area. Abide by the Library's Network Policy.
- Staff areas are off limits to non-staff, unless accompanied by a staff member.

Remain safe and take precautions.

- Parents and caregivers are responsible for monitoring their children. Staff cannot determine who is an authorized caregiver.
- Wear shoes and shirts in the Library.
- Take your belongings with you. Staff cannot take responsibility for or watch over your unattended items.

- Bicycles and scooters should be secured outside the building, in a place that does not impede access.

The following activities are prohibited on Library property:

- The possession of deadly weapons, including firearms (as defined in ORC §2923.11), either concealed or in plain view, unless the person carrying the weapon is a law enforcement officer,
- Possession of replica or toy weapons,
- The use of tobacco and marijuana products and substitutes in any form or the consumption of alcohol,
- Harassing, disruptive, threatening, or violent behavior,
- Abusive or obscene language toward patrons or staff,
- Taking photographs and/or recording videos of Library staff or patrons without their or a legal guardian's permission,
- Vandalism or tampering with the building's fire protection, security, lighting, or telecommunications systems,
- Illegal activity.

This Code is a guide, not a comprehensive list of violations. Library staff will intervene in situations at the Library that present danger to the safety of persons or property, disrupt others' use of the Library, or constitute inappropriate use of the Library.

Library staff are required to bring to an individual's attention any act or omission which is not in line with the Patron Code of Conduct and related Library policies. Library patrons will be asked to change their behavior to align with the rules. If such a change is not evident or forthcoming, patrons may be asked to leave the Library building and Library property. If a visitor is asked to leave and does not do so, police may be called in for assistance.

Depending on the nature of the infraction, patrons who have been asked to leave the building may be barred from returning to the Library for varying periods of time. Individuals who have been barred from returning may be required to discuss the violation with the Director or Deputy Director of Public Services before being welcomed back to the Library. A conversation with the parents or caregivers of children to discuss future conditions of Library attendance may be required

The Director will make decisions about reinstatement of privileges. Decisions of the Director may be appealed via USPS mail to the Rocky River Public Library Board of Trustees at 1600 Hampton Ave., Rocky River, Ohio 44116.