

Code of Conduct in the Library

The Board of Trustees of Butler Public Library, recognizing its responsibility to maintain a pleasant, welcoming environment, has established the following policy for all patrons.

Inappropriate Behavior

Inappropriate behavior includes any activity that disrupts others, interferes with library operations or the rights of other patrons, monopolizes library resources, creates a safety risk to self or others or damages or has the potential to damage library materials, facilities and property. Library staff reserve the right to determine what constitutes inappropriate behavior.

Examples of inappropriate behavior that are not permitted in the Library includes, but are not limited to:

- Disruptive noise and behavior. While complete silence should not be expected, staff will address disruptive behavior.
- Running, throwing, fighting or intentionally annoying other patrons or staff.
- Any form of sexual misconduct, including exposure, offensive or unwelcome touching and sexual harassment.
- Discourteous behavior towards library staff or disruptive behavior which interferes upon a staff member's ability to perform their job.
- Being under the influence of or in possession of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Use of any tobacco products or smoking, including the use of electronic and smoke-free cigarettes, anywhere in the library building.
- Behavior that presents danger to the life, well-being or safety of others.
- Entrance or exit from unauthorized doors or accessing unauthorized areas.
- Use of any incendiary device.
- Personal hygiene that poses a health, safety or sanitary risk or nuisance to others.

Limitations to Library Use

- Appropriate apparel, including shirts and shoes, must be worn while in the library.
- Bicycling, skateboarding rollerblading and skating are limited to outside of the library building. Bicycles ridden to the library must be stored in the bike racks while owners are using the library facility.
- Snacks are permitted in the library building, except when using library computers
- Drinks with lids are permitted in the library building.

Failure to Follow Policy

In the event that a patron violates any of these rules, a staff member will tell the individual that their behavior violates the Code of Conduct and that it must stop. If the individual continues the behavior, the patron will be asked to leave the library. If the patron refuses to leave, the police will be called to remove the patron from the premises. A patron may be banned from the library for a specific amount of time.

Vandalism, theft, damage or destruction of library property may result in suspension of library borrowing privileges, as well as criminal prosecution.