

The Public

A. Patron Use and Behavior Policy

The Library Board of Trustees believes that Library patrons have the right to use Library materials and services without being disturbed or impeded by other Library users; that Library patrons and employees have the right to a safe, secure, and comfortable environment; and, that Library patrons and employees have a right to materials that are in good condition. To that end, Illinois Library Law (75 ILCS 16/ et. Seq.) authorizes the Board “to make and adopt such bylaws, rules, and regulations...for the government of the Library,” and “to exclude from the use of the Library any person who willfully violates the rules prescribed by the board.”

By entering Library property, all patrons accept responsibility for their own conduct and will conduct themselves in a respectful manner given the nature and purpose of the Library. As such, conduct which disrupts Library staff, Library users and the general operation of the Library is strictly prohibited, including but not limited to:

1. Conduct or behavior that disturbs or harasses other Library users or staff, or that hinders others from using the Library or Library materials in the manner in which they were designed and intended. Library staff is not required to tolerate abusive language or behavior.
2. Hitting, pushing, shoving, fighting, using profanity and abusive language, shouting, or participating in indecent exposure.
3. Theft of, damage to, defacement or vandalism of, or misuse of Library materials, equipment, furniture, facilities, or another person’s property.
4. Dressing inappropriately or wearing clothing that offends, disrupts, disturbs, or is “gang related”, including but not limited to clothing containing obscene language or images, curse words or images and depictions of a sexually explicit nature.
5. Failure to wear proper attire which conforms to the standards of the community for public places, including but not limited to wearing shirts and shoes at all times.
6. Entering or remaining in the Library with a bodily hygiene so offensive that it constitutes a nuisance to other patrons and/or staff. Offending patrons shall be required to leave the building and may return after the problem has been resolved.
7. Entering or remaining in the Library with pervasive smells (ex: perfume) that interfere with other patron’s ability to use the Library.
8. Using Library bathrooms for traditional household activities such as bathing, shaving, washing clothes, or storing personal items.
9. Sleeping, lying, or lounging on the floor.
10. Moving or rearranging Library furniture.
11. Leaving personal belongings unattended.
12. Selling, soliciting, or requesting donations without prior written approval from the Library Director.
13. Posting notices or literature without prior written approval from the Library Director.

14. Causing excessive noise that may disturb other patrons such as using loud audio equipment or participating in cell phone calls in areas where it may disturb others. Patrons are encouraged to utilize the foyer or step outside for cell conversations.
15. Using Library phones or equipment without prior approval.
16. Bringing or attempting to bring pets or animals into the Library, except service animals as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, absent approval by the Library Director or designee.
17. Consuming food or beverages in any area other than those areas designated for food and beverage consumption. Limited beverages such as water or coffee are permitted, provided they be always kept in closed containers to prevent damage to Library furnishings and resources.
18. The use of vehicles other than wheelchairs and strollers, including but not limited to bicycles, scooters, skateboards and hoverboards. Skateboards and hoverboards may be carried into the Library but not used.
19. Possession of weapons, look alike weapons, or any other objects that can reasonably be considered to be a weapon.
20. Using or possessing controlled substances or alcohol or entering the Library under the influence of controlled substances or in an actual state of intoxication.
21. Smoking, vaping, or using chewing tobacco inside or within 20 feet of any Library entrance.
22. Disregarding or failing to follow the current and most recent guidance of the IDPH and the CDC.

Failure to follow the Patron Use and Behavior Policy may result in suspension of Library privileges up to and including a ban from Library property depending on the severity of the offense. In the event a suspension is issued, it may be appealed by writing the President of the Library Board of Trustees.

The Yorkville Police Department or other authorities may be called to assist the staff and enforce this policy when it is deemed necessary.

Updated and approved:

2/14/22