

# PATRON CONDUCT

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The Board of Trustees of the St. Charles Public Library District has adopted rules and regulations governing conduct in the Library. In order to fulfill its statutory charge to provide Library service and protect Library property and materials, the Board is empowered by the Illinois Public Library Act to “exclude from the use of the Library any person who willfully violates an ordinance or regulation prescribed by the Board.” [75 ILCS 16/30-55.55]

In addition to Library rules and regulations, individuals are subject to state laws and city ordinances with regard to acceptable and legal behavior. Violation of these laws or ordinances is subject to fines or other punishments, as stated in the Illinois Compiled Statutes or Municipal Code of the City of St. Charles.

The Board of Trustees believes that Library patrons have the right to use Library materials, services and facilities without being disturbed or impeded by other Library users; that Library patrons and employees have the right to an environment that is secure and comfortable; and that Library patrons and employees have a right to materials that are available and in good condition. Any conduct that disturbs Library patrons or staff or that hinders others from using the Library or Library materials is prohibited.

## LIBRARY PATRONS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO:

- Interfere with another Library patron’s ability to use the facilities.
- Interfere with Library employees’ performance of their duties.
- Bring onto the premises any firearms, weapons, knives, explosives or incendiary devices. Pocket knives, knitting needles and other similar items are not considered weapons. Exceptions may be made for educational purposes at the Library Director’s discretion.
- Engage in physical or verbal harassment, indecent exposure, or inappropriate displays of affection.
- Talk loudly, make noise, run, use abusive or threatening language, or engage in other disruptive, threatening, abusive, obscene, and/or erratic behavior.
- Use personal technology devices that impinge on the rights of others is considered disruptive behavior.
- Use audio equipment or musical instruments so that it disturbs others.
- The use of listening devices is permitted only if its use does not disturb others.
- Enter unauthorized areas, remain in the building after closing or when requested to leave during emergency situations or due to disruptive behavior.
- Damage, mutilate or remove from the premises without authorization any part of the Library collection, building, furnishings or equipment.
- Damage or alter any computer system hardware or software configurations.
- Consume alcoholic beverages except when served by the Library at Library-sponsored events.
- Smoke or vape indoors or on the Library’s campus.

- Be under the influence of alcohol, nonprescription drugs, or prescription medication that negatively impacts behavior.
- Have disruptive odor. If a patron has disruptive odor they shall be required to leave the building but may return when the problem is corrected.
- Be barefoot or shirtless.
- Lie or lounge on the floor, or habitually sleep for prolonged periods of time.
- Misuse the furniture or move furniture in any way that may impede safe or easy passage.
- Leave personal belongings unattended or place them in a manner that may impede safe or easy passage. All unattended belongings will be removed at the discretion of the Manager in Charge.
- Bring animals into the Library unless the animal is a certified service animal that is trained to medically assist a patron. Pets, emotional support animals, and other animals are prohibited unless used for a Library-sponsored program.
- Solicit for any cause while in the Library.
- Bring a bicycle into the building. All bicycles should be parked in the bicycle racks outside the building.
- Use hover boards, roller skates, roller blades, skateboards or similar on Library property including the Library building, entryways, or landscaped areas.

Although Library staff are not required by law to report suspected cases of child abuse or neglect, they may report them to the Department of Children & Family Services; and, as such, are protected by immunity from liability if they have reasonable cause to believe that a child suffers from abuse or neglect.

Adopted: 1/17/90  
 Revised: 5/13/92; 2/9/94; 11/10/99; 1/8/03;  
 7/14/04; 9/22/04; 1/25/07; 7/5/10; 11/2/11;  
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