



Patron Conduct Policy

Purpose

The Board of Trustees of the St. Charles Public Library District has adopted rules and regulations governing conduct in the Library in an effort to: (a) ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for Library patrons and employees, (b) protect the rights of patrons and staff, (c) preserve the public's investment in Library property.

Library use guidelines include the following:

- Anyone who interferes with a patron's ability to safely use the Library building or with an employee's ability to do their job, may be asked to leave.
- Weapons may not be brought onto Library property. This includes, but is not limited to, knives, explosives and/or firearms.
- Personal items must be attended at all times. Unattended belongings will be removed at the discretion of the Library.
- Patrons may not engage in physical or verbal harassment, foul language, indecent exposure, or inappropriate displays of affection. Threats of any kind will not be tolerated.
- Loud conversations and noises may disrupt other Library patrons. Polite levels of conversation are allowed in all areas except spaces designated as "quiet."
- Non-alcoholic, covered beverages are allowed in the building. Food may be consumed in the Bisbee Conference Room, Miller Haase Community Room, Huntley Community Room, Carnegie Community Room, Helen Gale Story Room and any Snack Stop (located on each level).
- Patrons should not enter unauthorized areas, remain in the building after closing or when they are asked to leave for any reason.
- No one may damage, mutilate or remove from the premises without authorization any part of the Library collection, building, furnishings, equipment, hardware, or software.
- Smoking/vaping is not allowed on the Library's property (indoors and outdoors) nor is drug use of any kind. Anyone suspected of being under the influence of alcohol, nonprescription drugs, or prescription medication that negatively impacts behavior, may be asked to leave.
- Patrons with disruptive odor may be required to leave the building until the problem is corrected.
- Patrons must wear proper attire and may not use the Library while barefoot or shirtless.
- Habitually sleeping for prolonged periods of time is not allowed.
- Patrons should avoid lying or lounging on the floor and on Library furniture and should not misuse or move the furniture in any way that may impede safe or easy passage.
- Anyone who misuses the Library bathroom may be asked to leave. This includes significant damage or behavior that puts the safety of others at risk. Bathing is not allowed.
- Certified service animals that are trained to medically assist a patron are allowed. Pets, emotional support animals, and other animals are prohibited.
- Any person or group soliciting for a cause while in the Library must first seek authorization from the Library director or their designee.
- Bicycles should be parked in the bicycle racks outside the building.
- Hover boards, roller skates, roller blades, or skateboards are not allowed on Library property including the Library building, entryways, or landscaped areas.

The Library 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]. Violations of this policy may result in exclusion from the Library for a period of time deemed appropriate by Library management.

Adopted: 1/17/90
Revised: 8/14/24