

Rules of Conduct for the Fairview Heights Public Library

The mission of the Fairview Heights Public Library is to offer our citizens an opportunity to learn, enjoy and experience the world through access to a wide variety of materials, programs and services. In order to foster an environment in which all customers are able to use the library's resources, services and programs as effectively as possible, we require that all customers comply with the following Rules of Conduct.

The use of picture phones or other electronic devices to record activity in the library is prohibited without prior permission of the library.

Use of any communication or electronic device in a manner that disturbs others is prohibited. Cell phone use should be kept to a minimum and patrons should speak in low tones and keep conversations brief. Patrons are expected to move out to the lobby if conversations cannot be conducted quickly.

Patrons may not talk loudly or behave in a disorderly or disruptive manner. The use of profane or threatening language or other harassment of library users or library staff will not be permitted.

Smoking, the use of electronic cigarettes or the use of smokeless tobacco are not permitted inside the Library.

Alcohol is not to be consumed on Library property.

Loitering, panhandling or petitioning on Library property is not permitted.

The solicitation of funds or the selling of objects on the Library premise will not be permitted except those that directly benefit the Library.

Food and beverages other than water in closed containers is not permitted within the library however snacks and drinks may be consumed in the lobby.

Parents and guardians are responsible for the behavior of their children while they are on Library property or attending library events. Children under the age of eleven must be accompanied and adequately supervised by a responsible adult. When the safety of an unattended child is in doubt and the responsible caregiver cannot be located, the staff is authorized to call the Police and stay with the child until the police arrive. In the event a child is still at the library 15 minutes after the library closes, the Police will be called to pick up the child and escort him or her to the Police station. Attempts will be made during those 15

minutes to reach parents/guardians, but in no instance will staff take any patrons home.

The teen and children's areas of the Library are designed for children and their families and caregivers. Use of these areas by adults who are not parents, guardians, teachers or caregivers may be restricted to ensure that children and their families have adequate access to the resources provided specifically for them.

Bringing animals, other than service animals, inside the library or within 20 ft of any door is prohibited. Animals may not be left unattended or allowed off leash on library property.

Vandalism of the Library's building, equipment or materials will be prosecuted.

Patrons are expected to maintain personal hygiene so that it is not offensive or constitutes a nuisance to other patrons.

Use of the public bathrooms for bathing, shaving, or trimming hair is prohibited. Washing clothes in the public restrooms is also not permitted.

Shirt and shoes must be worn at all times while in the Library.

Engaging in any illegal activity or behavior will not be permitted.

Library staff reserves the right to expel any person whose behavior is judged to be disruptive, inappropriate or does not follow the guidelines set forth in this document.

Persons who fail to observe these Rules of Conduct will be asked to leave the building or will be subject to arrest.