

Marion County Public Library System

PATRON CODE OF BEHAVIOR

Rules and Regulations for Conduct in the Library

It is the policy of the Marion County Public Library Board of Trustees that all necessary steps be taken to assure patrons and staff that they will find the facilities of the member libraries to be peaceful, comfortable, and safe places in which to read, study, browse or work. The Board has adopted the following policy so that the member libraries may provide an atmosphere conducive to appropriate use of the services and facilities. **The following rules and regulations shall remain in effect until otherwise modified by the Board:**

1. No disruptive behavior including but not limited to:
 - a. Physical actions or threat of physical action that could cause injury to library patrons or library staff or damage to library property,
 - b. Verbal abuse toward library patrons or library staff,
 - c. Obscene or profane language,
 - d. Extended loud speaking or noise that is disruptive to library patrons or library staff,
 - e. Lewd or suggestive words or actions to library patrons or library staff,
 - f. Exhibitionism or voyeurism,
 - g. Running or rough-housing on library property.
2. No eating or drinking around library computers
3. No open drink containers are permitted. Drinks with lids may only be allowed in designated areas.
4. No use of the public washroom for shaving, bathing, laundry, etc.
5. No smoking, no vaping, or no use of other tobacco products on library property. No smoking or vaping within fifty (50) feet of any library entrance.
6. No animals allowed with the exception Service Animals defined by the ADA and WV law.
7. No soliciting or selling.
8. No loitering.
9. No distributing or posting printed materials or literature without library approval.
10. No possessing or consuming alcohol or illegal drugs or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
11. No sleeping, putting feet or legs on furniture or lying down.
12. No bedrolls, blankets, frame backpacks, suitcases, large duffel bags or plastic bags measuring two feet in length or height will be permitted on library property. A maximum of two bags of any type will be permitted. Library staff reserve the right to examine the contents of backpacks or any other carrying bags that may be used to conceal library items.
13. No taking library materials into restrooms.
14. No removing library materials from the premises without authorization through established lending procedures
15. No firearms or weapons of any type.
16. No engaging in disorderly conduct, fighting or challenging a fight or using offensive language likely to provoke violence.
17. Patrons must be appropriately clothed, including shirt and shoes.
18. Patrons may not remain in the library after closing time.
19. All children under the age of 18 must be supervised by a parent or guardian and not left unattended.

In the event of a violation of this Patron Code of Behavior, sanctions may be taken in the form of warning, a request to leave the library property, a call to the police, or other legal action as, in each instance, seems most appropriate.

The Board of Trustees hopes the Patron Code of Behavior will not discourage anyone from legitimate use of the Library. The Board does believe the Code will serve to improve the library atmosphere for all its users.