

PATRON BEHAVIOR POLICY

Adopted 01/20/2005

The Fremont Public Library District Board of Trustees is committed to providing a facility that creates a safe and inviting atmosphere for the community, promotes efficient staff operations, reflects the organization's mission, and complies with generally accepted standards of public security, health and hygiene.

Patrons are expected to behave appropriately, with respect and consideration for the rights of others. Any behavior that, in the opinion of library staff, unreasonably infringes on the peaceful use and enjoyment of the library's facilities and services by others or interferes with staff in the performance of their duties will not be tolerated.

Examples of disruptive behavior include, *but are not limited to*:

- Engaging in any illegal activity.
- Loud conversations, whether in person or on a cell phone.
- Excessively noisy audiovisual devices (personal stereo, laptop, PDA, etc.).
- Damaging, defacing, or tampering with library equipment, furnishings, building or grounds.
- Damaging, defacing, or theft of library materials (books, magazines, CDs, videos, etc.)
- Dressing inappropriately for public setting (shoes and shirt must be worn at all times).
- Patrons entering or attempting to enter non-public areas.
- Monopolizing staff time or preventing other patrons from receiving staff assistance.
- Panhandling, selling, or soliciting goods or services. (See Meeting Room policy for allowable exceptions.)
- Bathing, shaving, or washing clothes in public restrooms.
- Excessively offensive personal hygiene.
- Extended or disruptive sleeping.
- Loitering on grounds or blocking entrances, exits, stairwells, and public rights of way.
- Being intoxicated or under the influence of an illegal controlled substance (defined as cannabis listed in the Cannabis Control Act, 720 ILCS 550/1 et seq. a controlled substance listed in the Illinois Controlled Substances Act, 35 ILCS 570/1 et seq. or an intoxicating compound listed in the Use of Intoxicating Compounds Act. 720 ILCS 690/0.01 et seq.).
- Carrying any weapons, firearms, explosives or combustible materials.
- Any behavior that causes an individual to feel harassed or threatened in any way.

Additionally, no animals are allowed in the library or on its grounds with the exception of an authorized library event or trained assistance/companion animals.

Patrons are responsible for cleaning up after themselves and not leaving debris in the library building or on its grounds.

Any patron who violates this policy may be required to leave the library and its grounds. Library staff members are authorized to eject person(s) causing a disruption for the remainder of the day. The police will be summoned if a patron refuses to leave when instructed to do so by a library staff member.

The Library Director is authorized to suspend library patrons' visitation and/or borrowing privileges. The Board of Trustees may review and alter suspensions. An appeal of a suspension must be made in writing to the President of the Library Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees will review a written appeal and decide if they wish to hold a hearing to consider altering the suspension.