

Rockport Public Library Patron Behavior Policy

The Rockport Public Library welcomes all visitors. The Library encourages everyone to use the collections, services, and facilities of the library. While offering opportunities for reading, information access, special programs, and quiet study, the library strives to maintain a secure and welcoming environment in which patrons are expected to respect the rights of other users.

Visitors are expected to adhere to the following rules:

- Engaging in any act or conduct which is prohibited by Federal and State law, or the Charter, Bylaws or Ordinances of the Town of Rockport is forbidden.
- Any behavior that creates a disturbance, hinders library function, and/or compromises the safety of staff and patrons is prohibited.
- Quiet conversation and group study are permitted in all areas of the building with the exception of the periodical room.
- Cell phone ringers should be turned off in all locations and cell phone conversations should be kept to a minimum and at a low volume.
- No smoking or vaping is permitted in the library or on library property.
- No possession, selling and/or use of alcohol or any unlawful controlled substance.
- Patrons are welcome to consume covered drinks and packaged snack foods except at the public computers.
- Shirts and shoes must be worn in the library.
- With the exception of service animals, no animals are allowed in the library building.
- Parents/guardians are responsible for the supervision of their children. See our [Safe Child Policy](#).
- Visitors are responsible for their personal property. Do not leave personal items unattended.
- Bicycles, roller blades, skateboards, scooters, or similar equipment may not be used in the building or on library property.
- Patrons must follow the rules for the use of the library's computers and printers posted in the Computer areas. See [Acceptable Use Policy](#).

Library staff has the authority to interpret and apply these rules.

Enforcement of these rules will be conducted in a fair and reasonable manner. Library staff will intervene to stop prohibited activities and behaviors. Failure to comply with the Library's established rules, regulations, and policies could result in removal from the premises and expulsion from the Library for a period for a time commensurate with the infraction, or in arrest or prosecution. Expulsion for more than one week may be appealed in writing to the Director.

Please inform Library staff if you observe anyone behaving in a suspicious or inappropriate manner.

Approved: Board of Library Trustees on May 17, 2018