

Unacceptable Patron Behavior

It is our aim to create a pleasant and secure atmosphere for all patrons. To encourage the proper use of the library materials and services, disruptive behavior is not tolerated and privileges may be suspended. Disruptive behavior is defined as any behavior that interrupts library services or takes away from another patron's library experience. Library Staff will firmly enforce this policy.

Such disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Excessive noise
- Horseplay
- Excessive displays of affection
- Profane language
- Throwing rocks
- Rollerblading or skateboarding in an unsafe manner or on elevated surfaces
- Sleeping
- Eating or drinking, except during designated activities
- Insufficient clothing – shirts, pants, and shoes must be worn inside the building
- Loitering after the library is closed
- Entering staff areas
- Soliciting in the library or on library property
- Sexual activity, lewd behavior, or sexual harassment
- Damage, theft, or defacing of library materials or property
- Tobacco use, which includes the use of electronic cigarettes
- Drinking alcohol, except at authorized library functions
- Possession or being under the influence of illegal drugs, narcotics, or other controlled substances on library property
- Loud, aggressive, or threatening conduct
- Carrying weapons (except as permitted under Indiana Code 35-47-11.1)
- Committing any act that would violate any State, Federal, or local law, ordinance, or regulation

If a patron's actions violate the patron behavior policy, they will be asked to change their behavior. Any disruptive behavior could be deemed cause for further action, including removal from the library or contact to the appropriate authorities.

Depending on the severity of the disruptive behavior, the library will take the following steps to enforce this policy:

1. A verbal warning to cease disruptive behavior.
2. Loss of library privileges for the day and removal from the building.
3. Loss of library privileges on a temporary or permanent basis.

The Library reserves the right to combine or skip steps depending on the nature of the offense. Those who are unwilling to leave, or who do not leave within a reasonable amount of time after being instructed to do so, will be considered trespassing.

Any person whose library privileges have been revoked under this policy may request, in writing, for a reinstatement of privileges. Reinstatement may be conditional on future compliance with library rules and will be at the sole discretion of the Library Director.