

PATRON CODE OF CONDUCT

Welcome to the North Webster Community Public Library. Our goal is to offer the best service possible to library patrons and visitors in an inviting environment. You can help us achieve this by following these rules:

The following are not permitted in the library:

- Loitering
- Loud, abusive, or offensive language
- Disruptive conversation or conduct
- Inappropriate behavior, which disrupts other library users or staff
- Inappropriate use of library furniture, equipment or facilities
- Gambling
- Any form of sexual misconduct, including exposure, offensive touching or sexual harassment of other patrons or staff or any other sexual activity that is inappropriate in a public place
- Eating or drinking (other than in designated areas)
- Unauthorized animals
- Use of tobacco products
- Horseplay, running, fighting, or throwing objects
- Skateboards, skates, or roller blades. All bicycles should be parked in the bike racks while owners are using the library facilities.
- Any behavior that presents an eminent danger to the life or safety of others.
- Possession of controlled substance
- Begging, solicitation, and unauthorized sales
- Any illegal behavior
- Weapons unless authorized by law

Persons under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol are not permitted in the library.

Theft, damage, or destruction of library property is a crime and will be prosecuted.

Shirts and shoes are required to be worn, while in the library.

If a person's bodily hygiene is so offensive as to constitute a nuisance to others, they may be asked to leave.

Any person, who poses a health or sanitary risk or a nuisance to other persons, may be asked to leave the premises.

No person, while in the library, shall obtain or attempt to obtain signatures to a petition, conduct surveys or investigations, distribute printed material, solicit or do selling of any kind without the authorization of the library director.

Patrons will be allowed to use the library telephone in cases of emergencies. Use is at the staff's discretion.

Due to limited space around the computers, only two persons are permitted at each computer station.

Procedures

In the event that a patron violates any of these rules, a staff member will tell the individual that his/her behavior violates the Patron Code of Conduct, and that it must stop. If the individual continues the behavior, he/she will be asked to leave the library. If the patron refuses, the police will be called to remove the patron from the premises.

A patron may also have their library privileges revoked or suspended by the Library Director for a specific amount of time. In some cases, a violation of the conduct rules may result in legal prosecution.

Preschool children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver when in the Children's Department. Parents or caregivers should not leave young children unattended while using other areas of the library, unless that child is participating in a supervised, scheduled program such as a story time or an after school special. Please review our Children's policy for additional information.

Adults, who cannot care for themselves independently without the constant attention of a caregiver, may not be left alone in the library at any time and must have adequate supervision from a caregiver at all times.

With everyone's cooperation to the above policy, the library will continue to be a pleasant environment for our patrons and visitors.

The Board of Trustees of the North Webster Community Public Library reserves the right to change this policy without notice.

Adopted on 12/16/09