

Patron Behavior Policy

(Adopted by the Board: July 2002; revised 11/2008)

Welcome to the Plainfield-Guilford Township Public Library. We ask your cooperation in maintaining an environment conducive to reading, studying and information gathering, as well as providing for the enjoyable use of the library for every patron. These rules are posted to protect the health, safety, welfare and rights of all patrons. Patrons, however, are responsible for their behavior, personal items and personal effects.

While on library property, the following behaviors and/or actions are UNACCEPTABLE:

- § Bringing weapons onto library property, or threatening to do so.
- § Damaging, misusing, monopolizing or vandalizing library facilities, equipment or materials.
- § Removing library materials without properly checking them out.
- § Abandoning, leaving or neglecting children or otherwise violating the library's Safe Child Policy.
- § Harassing other library users or library staff. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, excessive conversation, unwelcome advances, verbal, physical or sexual abuse, and violence or threats of violence.
- § Possessing or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal controlled substances.
- § Using tobacco products, having food or drink in restricted areas, or indulging in habitual sleeping.
- § Using radios, televisions or CD/tape players audible to others.
- § Selling, soliciting or panhandling (approaching patrons or staff members with items for sale or pleas for donations).
- § Distributing or posting printed materials or literature without prior Director approval.
- § Using bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades or scooters in the library.
- § Blocking any entrance, aisle or exit.
- § Bringing in any animals except service dogs without prior Director approval.
- § Bringing in bulky items, including but not limited to, sleeping bags, suitcases or large duffle bags.
- § Using restrooms improperly, including but not limited to, bathing or shaving.
- § Being in the library before or after business hours without the written permission of the library Director or his/her designee.
- § Being a nuisance to others with offensive bodily hygiene.

- § Entering office/workroom areas unless invited by a staff member or with prior written permission of the Director.
- § Indulging in a disturbance of the peace by loud or aggressive behavior, running, profanity, indecent or obscene language or gesture, or abusive language.
- § Engaging in any indecent or obscene conduct or making any indecent exposure of one=s person.
- § Engaging in acts which are subject to prosecution under criminal codes of law.
- § Loitering, either in the library building or on library property
- § Wearing inappropriate clothing in the library, such as bathing suits or cleated shoes, or not wearing shoes or a shirt.

If a library user chooses not to follow the library's Patron Behavior Policy, the user will be asked to correct the unacceptable behavior. If the behavior continues, the user will be asked to leave the library. Law enforcement may be called if the user refuses to leave.