

Rules Governing the Use of the Apalachin Library

It is the policy of the Apalachin Library to offer a range of services to all the residents of the community. Service shall not be denied or abridged because of religious, racial, social, economic, or political status. The public has certain expectations of the Library. These include a relevant collection of library materials, pleasant, attractive surroundings, and courteous, efficient, and effective service from the library staff. Library patrons have a right to assume that visits to the library will be free from harassment, physical discomfort and danger and free from psychological and emotional stress.

The Library staff has the same rights listed above. Each member of the staff should be able to perform his or her work free of harassment, abuse, discomfort, and undue stress.

The following are considered unacceptable behavior in the Library or on Library property:

1. Conversing in a loud conversation or laughter which is disturbing to others.
2. Using obscene or abusive language
3. Fighting or boisterous behavior.
4. Soliciting donations or selling of any kind, except as part of a Library sponsored program.
5. Taking surveys, circulating petitions, distributing leaflets, posting notices or other similar activities without authorization by the Library Director.
6. Entering the building without shirt or shoes.
7. Smoking, vaping, or chewing tobacco.
8. Possessing alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs.
9. Consuming food or beverages brought into the building. Public eating or drinking is permitted only when approved as part of a Library-sponsored program.
10. Loitering, sleeping and/or roving through the building with no apparent intention of using library materials or resources, or following staff members or other library patrons around the building, engaging in harassing behavior.
11. Bringing animals into the building other than those used to aid persons with disabilities. Animals may not be left unattended on Library property.
12. Using radios or other sound or musical equipment in a manner which is disturbing to others.
13. Willfully destroying, defacing, or damaging any library property.
14. Removing any library property from the building without authorization.
15. Moving any library furniture or equipment from one location to another without authorization by a member of the library staff.
16. Using library telephones without permission from a member of the library staff.
17. Bringing bicycles into the library or entryway. Roller-skating, rollerblading, and bicycle riding are not permitted in the library or on the library porch.

18. Engaging in any other misbehavior that infringes on the rights of others in the building to use the library and its facilities peacefully and without harassment.
19. Parents and other legal guardians are responsible for the behavior of their minor children in the library.
20. No cell phone use will be allowed in the library.
21. No offensive odors are allowed either from perfumes, other scents, or body odor.
22. Taking videos and photographs in the library will require Director or Board approval. No one may photograph any children other than their own. Filming behind the desk is prohibited.
23. Rules about the Pavilion.
 - a. The pavilion will only be used for library programs and services.

Those who refuse to abide by these rules of behavior will be asked to leave the building and denied the use of the library and its services. The Library Director is authorized to create and maintain a system of procedures to accomplish this purpose. All illegal activities are to be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Violators of these rules who refuse to leave the Library when requested are subject to arrest under the Criminal Trespass section of New York State Penal Law.

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