

Grand Island Public Library Health and Safety Policy

Suspension of Privileges for Health and Safety Reasons

It is the responsibility of the Grand Island Public Library to maintain a healthy and clean environment for all Library users and to protect the City's investment in Library collections, equipment, and property. In order to fulfill this responsibility, the Library may restrict a user's ability to borrow materials and/or to visit the Library when such use may jeopardize the health and cleanliness of Library facilities, collections, or users.

Examples of situations where borrowing of materials may be suspended include, but are not limited to:

- Evidence that items on loan to a customer may have been returned with insects that are known to be damaging to library materials, or that can result in pest infestations in library facilities, e.g. bed bugs, roaches, silverfish, and some types of beetles

Examples of situations where access to Library facilities may be suspended include, but are not limited to:

- Customers or customer possessions with fleas, lice, roaches, or bed bugs
- Customers with clothing that is stained with vomit, urine, or feces

Should it become necessary to suspend Library privileges of a customer in order to protect Library collections, facilities, or other users, notification of the suspension will be made by the Lead on Duty and Library staff as assigned.

Patron Protocol

Library patrons must cease to borrow materials from Library if they are experiencing a bed bug infestation in their residence.

In the event that a patron discovers a live or dead bed bug, bed bug eggs, bed bug nymphs, or feces or spotting associated with bed bugs in Library materials, the patron must immediately do the following:

- If the materials are inside of the Library: Bring the materials to a staff member and inform the staff member of the problem.
- If the materials are outside of the Library and in the possession of the patron: Place the materials into a sealable plastic bag. Return the sealed materials directly to a staff member and inform the staff

member of the problem. Patrons must not use book drops to return materials suspected or with evidence of bed bugs.

- Patrons will be held responsible for any damages sustained to Library materials due to infestation. The Library will not circulate materials that have evidence of infestation that cannot be completely eradicated from the item(s). Items that are too damaged with infestation evidence to circulate will be discarded.
- Patrons are prohibited from self-treating Library materials that are suspected to contain bed bugs.
- Patrons will be held responsible for any damages sustained to Library materials during an attempted self-treatment. Successfully eradicating bed bugs requires professional procedures and equipment contracted by the Library.

Health and Safety Service Suspensions

Customers who have had Library privileges suspended under Suspension of Privileges for Health and Safety Reasons may request reinstatement upon the ability to demonstrate that the situation that resulted in loss of privileges has been resolved. This includes paying for any damaged materials in full.

For reinstatement requests relating to suspensions due to pest infestation, decisions will be made based upon evidence showing that the address in question has been inspected with no sign of infestation or that the residence has been professionally treated. Confirming information may include copies of receipts for treatment, a letter from a licensed pest control company or a written statement from the owner or property manager of a multi-family rental residence. In some circumstances, proof of a change of residential address may also be accepted.

Decision and Appeal Authority

The Library Director will make decisions about reinstatement of privileges. Decisions of the Director may be appealed to the Library Board.

Bug Policy Links

<http://scpl.us/bed-bug-policy/>

<https://walkerton.lib.in.us/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/WLTPL-Bed-bug-policy-for-web-page.pdf> --

https://htlibrary.org/download/management_policies/MGT-11-Bed-Bug-Control-Policy.pdf

<http://wichitalibrary.org/About/Policies/Pages/customer-code.aspx>