

Lexington Public Library Code of Conduct Policy

1. Purpose Statement

In an effort to provide all library patrons with a facility that is safe, pleasant, and conducive to Library use, anyone using the facility or grounds should at all times be respectful of the people and property around them.

2. Guidelines

- A. A shirt and shoes must be worn at all times while in the Library.
- B. Food and covered beverages are allowed in the library. Trash receptacles are easily accessible throughout the facility.
- C. No animals or pets are allowed in the Library unless they are a certified service or support animal. Animals authorized for Library programming are allowed in the Library.
- D. Behavior which is disruptive to other patrons or staff will result in the patron (s) being asked to leave the facility.
- E. Profanity is prohibited.
- F. Any activities illegal under federal, state, or local laws are also illegal in the Library, specifically including:
 - 1. Theft or mutilation of City property.
 - 2. Possession of illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia.
 - 3. Consumption of alcohol on public property.
 - 4. Disturbing the peace.
 - 5. Disorderly conduct.
- G. The Library specifically prohibits:
 - 1. Use of tobacco and vaping products in the Library.
 - 2. Carrying weapons of any kind.
 - 3. The misuse of restrooms such as for laundering clothes and bathing.
 - 4. Sleeping on Library premises.
 - 5. Leaving children unattended.
 - 6. Use of Library telephones for anything other than urgent calls or for children needing to call parents.
 - 7. Loud conversation.
 - 8. Abusive language or behavior.
 - 9. Engaging in disruptive conduct which interferes with other patrons using the Library or disrupts the work of library staff.

3. Consequences

- A. First offense: One verbal warning will be given to a person or persons behaving inappropriately.
- B. Second offense: If the person (s) continues to disregard the Library's rules after one warning, they will be asked to leave.
- C. Third offense: If, after returning to the Library, the person disregards the Library's rules again, they will be banned from the Library for two (2) weeks.
- D. Fourth and repeated offenses: Patrons that continue to disregard the Library's rules will be banned from the Library for six (6) months.
- E. Patrons asked to leave the Library must leave promptly or the police will be notified to remove the person (s) and to issue a No Trespassing Warrant.
- F. Severe violations of this policy will NOT require a warning and will result in the person (s) being required to leave the Library immediately. In any case where a violation involves possible criminal behavior (assault, destruction of property, etc.) the police will be immediately notified.
- G. Repeat offenders may be brought before the City attorney for possible prosecution. Permanent exclusion from the Library will occur only after a person has been allowed due process.