



DCLS User Behavior Policy

Approved by Library Board

9/21/2010

Amended 12/16/2014

The Dauphin County Library System is committed to providing a quiet, safe and supportive environment for all users and staff engaged in library activities. The Library is a limited public forum, therefore all members of the public are encouraged to read, study, and use Library materials, programs or services.

I. Prohibited Behavior: General Definition

Users may not engage in any act which disrupts or prevents the normal or intended use of the Library by any other users or staff, and may result in loss of library privileges and/or legal actions. The Library is not responsible for stolen or lost property and the Library shall not be used for storage of personal belongings.

II. Prohibited Behavior: Specific Examples Activities and behavior which seriously interfere with the provision of Library service, are prohibited in all buildings, and are grounds for immediate expulsion from Library Facilities and may result in loss of library privileges and legal actions.

Library users engaged in the follow activities (1-9) will be asked to cease the behavior and will be immediately expelled from Library.

Behavior and activities prohibited in the library includes, but is not necessarily limited to:

1. Cutting, tearing, defacing, breaking or damaging Library materials or property
2. Tobacco use, including use of electronic cigarettes or any derivative, is prohibited in all DCLS buildings.
3. Any criminal activities.
4. Using, giving away or selling any controlled substance or intoxicating liquors, or being under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances.
5. Use of abusive, threatening, harassing or offensive language. (Verbally or physically threatening or harassing other visitors, library staff or volunteers, including stalking, staring, touching, or using offensive language.)
6. Physically abusing or assaulting other patrons or staff.
7. Engaging in sexual activity including solicitation, sexual harassment, and indecent exposure.

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8. Bringing any weapon into the Library unless otherwise permitted by law.
9. Using library computers in a manner prohibited by the DCLS "Internet Acceptable Use Agreement".

Library users engaged in the following activities (10-24) will be asked to cease the behavior and may be told to leave the Library for the rest of the day. Any subsequent violations may result in the loss of Library privileges for a period up to one year:

10. Eating, drinking, or displaying open food or liquid containers unless done so in a specially designated area of the Library.
11. Sleeping.
12. Inappropriate restroom use, including bathing, shaving, hair or clothes washing.
13. Monopolizing library space, seating, tables or equipment to the exclusion of other patrons and staff.
14. Obstructing aisles, walkways, or doors
15. Failing to keep personal belongings to one self.
16. Presenting poor personal hygiene, including offensive and pervasive odors which are a nuisance to others.
17. Unreasonable noise, including loud talking, singing, playing of audio equipment, use of cell phones which disturbs others, and boisterous activity.
18. Leaving children under the age of seven unattended by a parent or authorized adult.
19. Soliciting, begging, and selling any items.
20. Distributing or posting any printed materials except through authorized Library procedures.
21. Entering without shirt or shoes
22. Entering with animals, except certified assistance animals or those pre-approved for library programs.
23. Bicycles must be left outside the Library in the bicycle rack and skateboards, inline and roller skates must not be worn inside the Library and must be stowed safely. Skateboarding, bicycle riding and skating are not permitted on Library grounds.
24. Failing to leave the premises promptly at closing time or during an emergency evacuation.

These rules shall be applied in a neutral and nondiscriminatory manner to protect the property, users and staff of the Dauphin County Library System, and to maintain the availability of library resources for all users.

Any patron who violates these rules and regulations may be denied the privilege of access to the Library System. A patron whose privileges have been denied may have that decision reviewed by the Board of Trustees by appealing the denial via written request to the Executive Director within fourteen (14) days of the denial of library service.