

RPL Policy 5.6

Adopted: November, 2003

Page 1 of 2

Revised: July 25, 2005  
August 28, 2017

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Rockford Public Library strives to provide a safe, pleasant, and welcoming environment for all Library visitors. To support this purpose, the Library Board of Trustees has adopted this Code of Conduct guiding behavior in the Library.

The Rockford Public Library provides equal and open access to its facilities and resources. While everyone has an equal right to access Library services and facilities, no person has the right to interfere with the ability of others to use and enjoy Library resources, services, and facilities.

Behavior becomes unacceptable when it interferes with appropriate use of the Library by others or when it could result in a disruption, safety hazard, injury, or damage to Library property.

To foster a reasonable and welcoming environment for all visitors, Library patrons are expected to:

- A. Attend to their personal belongings. The Library is not responsible for personal belongings left in or on Library property.
- B. Enjoy food and drinks responsibly while in the Library, including:
  - Eat foods in designated areas.
  - Except for Library-sponsored events, food consumption should be minimal.
  - Keep food and drinks away from the computers.
  - Avoid spills by using covered containers for beverages.
  - Alcohol may be allowed by Special Permit for Library-sanctioned activities.
- C. Use public restrooms for intended purpose only.
- D. Maintain dress and personal hygiene appropriate for a public place of business.
- E. Refrain from entering non-public areas unless authorized by staff.

The following actions and behaviors are considered inappropriate on Library property and thus prohibited:

- A. Activities that would be a violation of any federal, state or local criminal statute or ordinance.
- B. Selling products or services or soliciting donations on Library property.
- C. Intoxication to the point of impairment of one's mental or physical abilities.
- D. Possession of weapons, alcohol, or any illegal substances.
- E. Sleeping in the Library and on Library property.

F. Bringing animals other than service animals into the Library.

Rockford Public Library maintains the right to expel from a Library facility any individual who contributes to a disruptive or unsafe environment or is determined to have violated this policy.

Serious or repeated misconduct may lead to restrictions including loss of Library privileges for a period determined by Library staff, and/or to appropriate legal action. Individuals have the right to appeal a loss of Library privileges within seven (7) days by submitting any information they desire to be considered in writing to the Director of Library Experience.