

ROXBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

PATRON BEHAVIOR POLICY

The Roxbury Public Library invites you to enjoy your library and to come often. The library is committed to providing a pleasant, secure and supportive environment for all of its patrons and staff. To achieve this goal, the following Standards of Behavior have been established:

Any activity or behavior that hinders the use of the library, is disruptive, or jeopardizes the safety of patrons or employees, inside or outside is prohibited. Disruptive behavior may include, but is not limited to:

- Running and rowdiness
- Shouting, talking or making noise loud enough to disturb others.
- Physical or verbal harassment or abuse directed at patrons or staff.
- Sexual activity.
- Cell phones used in a way that disturbs others.
- Possession or use of alcohol except at authorized Library functions.
- Possession or use of illegal drugs, narcotics or controlled substances.
- Consuming food except in designated areas or at authorized Library functions.
- Possession of weapons

Shirts and shoes are required.

Animals are not allowed in the library with the exception of licensed service animals or with the approval of the Library Director.

The library is not responsible for lost or stolen articles. Please do not leave valuable or personal belongings unattended.

Soliciting, panhandling, political campaigning and petitioning are not permitted on library property. All materials to be posted or distributed must be approved by the library.

Bicycles must be left outside the library building. Skateboards, roller skates, scooters and in-line skates must not be worn or used on library premises.

Patrons must adhere to local, state, and federal health guidelines.

Addendum Concerning the Behavior and Supervision of Minors and Children's Areas of the Library

The Roxbury Public Library welcomes children. Parents/caregivers are responsible for their child's safety and behavior while in the Library whether the parent/caregiver is present or not. Library employees cannot function as caregivers or babysitters. The Library is not equipped—and it is not the Library's role—to provide long-or short-term childcare. The Library assumes neither responsibility nor liability for the actions, care, supervision or safety of minors.

For the safety and comfort of children, a responsible adult or an older responsible individual must accompany children under age five when they are using the Library. This responsible individual must supervise, guide and control the behavior of their charge or charges at all times.

When a child is unattended or under-attended/ignored and

- the behavior of the child is disruptive or inappropriate (or)
- the child appears to be a danger to herself or himself or others (or)
- the child appears to be threatened by others (or)
- the child appears to be ill or upset (or)
- the child has not been met by a parent or caregiver 15 minutes prior to closing

Library staff will attempt to contact the parent or guardian of the child. In the event that the parent or guardian cannot be located, staff will contact the first selectman, Resident Trooper or State Police. In no circumstances will staff take the responsibility of taking the child home.

In the event of an emergency, staff will call 911.

Inappropriate Use of Children's Spaces/Youth Services:

Adults are permitted in children's areas of the Library when accompanied by a child or if the adult is actively reading, studying and using library materials from the children's area collections. Any adult not in compliance with this provision will be asked to use other areas of the library. If the individual does not comply with staff direction or repeatedly violates this policy, the individual may be banned from the Library.

In most cases, one verbal warning will be issued to any person who violates these standards. Library staff are authorized to enforce these rules and the library reserves the right to revoke or restrict library privileges of any patron for behavior contrary to these standards.

Adopted and Approved
Board of Trustees, Minor Memorial Library

Cynthia Newby, Chair

5/4/2020
Dated