

Hopkins County-Madisonville Public Library

CODE OF CONDUCT

Public Policy

All persons have free access to the Library during the hours it is open and the right to the reasonable use of its facilities and services. The Library, however, expects reasonable behavior from its users. Anti-social or problem behavior may infringe upon the rights of others in the use of the Library. It is the policy of the Library to maintain a safe facility, free from any threat of physical violence, emotional abuse, or any form of intimidation. Respect for other Library users and staff shall prevail always.

To ensure safety, comfort, and access to Library resources and facilities for all, the Hopkins County-Madisonville Public Library Board of Trustees have adopted this Code of Conduct. Any behavior or activity that interferes with legitimate library business will be prohibited. Persons who fail to observe the following guidelines may be asked to leave the library and library grounds, banned from library use and/or be subject to arrest under trespass laws of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, Chapter 381, Section 231 and Chapter 511, Sections 060, 070, or 080.

The following are examples of unacceptable behavior:

- Loud talking, inappropriate cell phone use, disruptive, abusive, or threatening language or behavior.
- Consumption of food and beverages in the public areas of the Library (with the exception of library-sponsored or approved events)
- Smoking, use of tobacco, vaporizers (eg. electronic cigarettes), or consumption of illegal substances.
- Consuming alcoholic beverages and/or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Use of Library computers which violates the Library Computer and Internet policies and procedures.
- Sleeping, bathing or washing clothing.
- Leaving personal belongings (eg. backpacks, coats, purses, etc.) unattended.
- Offensive body odor due to neglected hygiene or other strong scents that may be offensive or disruptive for others.
- Use of Library facilities or equipment for other than library purposes, including solicitation and/or distribution of materials, without prior written authorization.
- Running or use of bicycles, skates, skateboards or rollerblades on Library premises.
- Rearrangement of Library equipment or furniture (other than by library staff)
- Bringing pets, other than certified service animals, into the building.
- Use of Library by customers not fully clothed, including shirts and shoes.
- Damaging Library property.
- Panhandling, soliciting, gambling, or loitering on Library premises.

Additionally,

- The Library maintains the right to inspect all packages of visitors entering or leaving the Library.
- The Library has the right to restrict visitors from entering the Library with large bundles, carts, bicycles, or similar items.
- Anyone unable to care for, or be responsible for, him or herself must be supervised by a responsible caregiver.

None of these rules are intended to be all inclusive of every behavior that will be regulated on library property. The Hopkins County-Madisonville Public Library reserves the right to prohibit any behavior or actions which we feel may be inappropriate or disruptive.

Adopted by the Hopkins County-Madisonville Public Library Board of Trustees on January 18, 2017.

Carolyn Ferrell, President

Date Reviewed _____

Date Revised: _____

All Previous Versions of this Policy are Void.