

Patron Responsibilities and Conduct

The library will serve all residents of the public library system area. Service will not be denied or abridged because of religious, racial, social, economic or political status; or because of mental, emotional, or physical condition; age; or sexual orientation.

It is a patron's responsibility to maintain necessary and proper standards of behavior in order to protect his/her individual rights and the rights and privileges of other patrons. If a library staff member deems that a patron is creating a public nuisance or is unduly disrupting library operations, the staff reserves the right to restrict or deny use of the library facilities. The appropriate authorities will be called if patrons are unwilling to leave or do not leave within a reasonable amount of time, after being instructed to do so by the staff.

The use of the library and its properties including Storybook Park may be denied for due cause. Such cause may include but not be limited to failure to return library materials or to pay penalties, destruction of library property, threatening behavior, disturbance of other patrons, or any other illegal, disruptive, or objectionable conduct on library premises. Determination of due cause is at the sole discretion of the library director. The library will be a drug, tobacco, weapon, and alcohol free environment. The library shall be considered a Safe Zone for all patrons.

Any patron found to be in violation of these standards will be given a verbal warning and may be asked to leave. Additional infractions will result in filing of an incident report and will have the following consequences:

- 1st infraction—written warning
- 2nd infraction—1 week removal from the library premises
- 3rd infraction—1 month removal from the library premises
- 4th infraction—1 year removal from the library premises

After the 4th infraction, barred patrons must reapply to the library board which in its discretion may allow access to the facilities with probation. Any further incidents will result in a permanent ban from the library. A violator of any of these guidelines may be barred from entry into the library at the discretion of the library director or her designee.

Young Children:

The Library encourages visits by young children and it is our desire to make this important visit both memorable and enjoyable for the child. Library staff is not expected to assume responsibility for the care of unsupervised children in the library. Therefore, it is library policy that all children under age seven must be accompanied by a parent or designated responsible person while in the library.

Disruptive children:

Children of all ages are encouraged to use the library for homework, recreational reading, and program attendance. The library staff realizes that the library will be noisier at busy times and that children by nature can cause more commotion. However, children (whether with or without parents/guardians) who are being continually disruptive will be given a warning that he/she must settle down or will be asked to leave the library. If after a second warning the child continues to be disruptive, he/she will be asked to leave the library. An incident report will be filed. If the child needs to contact a parent, they may do so and then wait with a staff person at the front desk until the parent arrives.

Approved by the Adams Public Library System Board of Trustees
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