

POLICY ON PATRON BEHAVIOR

The Spirit Lake Public Library will provide a safe, comfortable environment that is conducive to the use of library materials either by individuals or small groups.

Patrons using the library are expected to behave in a way that is appropriate to the library's purpose. Therefore, the following kinds of behavior are prohibited:

1. Any behavior that is illegal.
2. Any behavior that endangers oneself or others.
3. Any behavior that is disruptive of the library environment.
4. Any behavior that is abusive of staff members or other patrons.
5. Any use of the library that interferes with the library's purpose.

UNATTENDED 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 six must be accompanied by a parent or designated responsible person while in the library.

GUIDELINES

The primary responsibility for enforcing this patron behavior policy rests on the staff member in charge of the library when an incident occurs. However, all staff members have responsibility for enforcing the policy.

1. Staff members are to use their best professional judgment when enforcing this policy.
2. In consideration for others, patrons are asked to limit their cell phone conversations to the lobby or outdoors.
3. No food or drink will be allowed except in community room.
4. The only animals allowed in the library are service animals.
5. No weapons are allowed in the library, unless as a part of a law enforcement official's uniform.
6. The goals of staff action will be to curtail a patron's inappropriate behavior, and to encourage the patron to behave appropriately in the library.
7. Response to any incident should occur as soon as possible after the incident begins.
8. Except in cases where the staff feels in physical danger, they will discuss the inappropriate behavior with the patron, suggest alternatives, and, if necessary, state the consequences of continued inappropriate behavior.

9. In cases where a juvenile refuses to behave appropriately in the library, the staff member in charge is authorized to call the juvenile's parents.
10. In cases where a patron continues to behave in an inappropriate manner after the staff has warned the patron that such behavior is inappropriate, the staff member in charge is authorized to tell the patron to leave, and to call the police if the patron refuses.

10/4/2004

9/10/2007

12/6/2010

5/4/2015