

Conduct Policy

Our community expects Library facilities to be safe, clean, and conducive for selecting materials, reading, researching, studying, writing, and attending Library or public programs and meetings. To this end, the Library is responsible for establishing rules of conduct to protect the rights and safety of Library customers, volunteers, and employees for preserving and protecting the Library's materials, equipment, facilities, and grounds.

These rules apply inside Library facilities as well as on Library grounds; including walkways, steps, ramps, parking lots, garden areas, and green spaces.

Muncie Public Library Code of Conduct

1. Library users are expected to be engaged in the productive use of the library's resources.
2. Library users should be considerate of others at all times.
3. Library users should comply with all federal, state, local, or other applicable law, or Library policy.
4. Library users should comply with the requests of Library personnel.

Enforcement of Library Conduct Rules will be handled in a fair and reasonable manner. Library personnel will intervene to stop prohibited activities and behaviors. Failure to comply with the Library's established rules, regulations, and policies could result in removal from the premises. Violations could also result in the restriction and/or termination of Library privileges for one day to one year or more.

All presence on Library property signifies agreement with these rules and regulations.

Examples of Unacceptable Conduct

The actions and behaviors described in this policy are not permitted inside the library building or on library grounds, including parking lots, extended parking areas, and gardens and green spaces:

- Being under the influence of alcohol/illegal drugs or selling, using, or possessing alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Verbal or physical bullying, threatening, or harassing other customers, volunteers, or staff, including stalking, staring, lurking, offensive touching, and acts such as sex acts and indecent exposure.
- Stealing, damaging, altering, or abusing Library property.
- Soliciting or distributing, posting, or conducting surveys not authorized by the Library.
- Trespassing in nonpublic areas.
- Using the restrooms for inappropriate activities such as smoking, drug use, laundry, bathing, sexual activities, etc.
- Overnight sleeping or camping on Library grounds.
- Fighting or challenging to fight, running, pushing, shoving, or throwing objects.
- Creating disruptive noises such as loud talking, swearing, screaming, or using audible devices set at a volume that disrupts others.
- The use of tobacco products, and tobacco-like products, including but not limited to e-cigarettes, vaporizers, snuff, and chew.

- Entering the Library barefooted, without a shirt, or having offensive body odor or personal hygiene that is disruptive to Library customers or programs.
- Consuming food in unauthorized public areas of the Library.
- Leaving bags, packages, backpacks, luggage, or other personal items unattended. All personal items should be of a size to fit comfortably under the user's chair or table. Larger bags of any type, bedrolls, and luggage are prohibited. All bags and other articles are subject to inspection by Library personnel.
- Skateboarding, roller-skating, bicycling, scooters, or other devices or actions that are disruptive, obstruct Library entrances, or damage Library property.
- Lying down or sleeping.
- Failing to provide proper supervision of children. See: Unattended Child Policy
- Bringing pets or animals, other than service animals necessary for accommodation, into the Library.

Library personnel will deploy the Police Department when necessary.

Expulsion

Any expulsion from the library applies to all locations of Muncie Public Library. The Director will determine expulsion for more than one week. Expulsions of one year or more may be appealed in writing to the Library Board.

Appeals may be addressed to President of the Board, Muncie Public Library, 2005 S. High Street, Muncie, IN 47302. Appeals should state the customer's name, address, and reason(s) for expulsion along with information that would support a request for reinstatement.

See also: Illegal or Threatening Behavior Policy; Tobacco-Free Policy, Unattended Child Policy