

Rules of Behavior including



Disruptive and Illegal Behavior Policy

Purpose: Everyone has a right to expect and receive quality library service at the Grand Marais Public Library from a friendly and helpful staff. Each patron has the right to receive that service in an atmosphere that is calm, safe and as free from disturbance as possible. The staff has the right to provide service without fear of abuse or threatening behavior from patrons using the library.

Conditions: Use of tobacco products is not allowed within the library or where “no smoking” signs are posted outside of the building.

Eating is allowed in designated areas of the library only. Beverages with lids are allowed inside the library.

Solicitation is not allowed in the library or on the library grounds.

Young children must, at all times, be accompanied and supervised by an adult. Grand Marais Public Library staff is not responsible for the care, safety, or supervision of children.

The library cannot assume parental or guardian responsibilities or oversight for vulnerable adults while in the library. A parent, foster parent, legal guardian or caregiver is responsible for monitoring the activities and managing the behavior of vulnerable adults during their library visit.

Careful use of library materials is required. Library furniture and other equipment must be used in the designated places. Damage to library property is prohibited under Minnesota Statute § 609.541.

Only Seeing Eye dogs and other service animals are allowed in the library.

Abusive or harassing language or behavior is a nuisance and is not permitted.

Running, roller-skating, skateboarding, rollerblading or similar inappropriate activities in the library or on the grounds is not permitted and could constitute a nuisance.

The public is not permitted behind the public service desks or in other non-public areas.

Causing a nuisance as defined in Minnesota Statute § 561.01 is prohibited. A nuisance is anything that is:

- Harmful to the health of a person, or
- Offensive to the senses of a person, or
- An obstruction to the free and unrestricted use and enjoyment of the library property by other persons. This includes loud talking and/or disruptive noise.

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Violation of the above policies may result in a warning, a request to leave the premises, an escort out of the library, and notification of the police. Persons causing a nuisance may have their privileges to use all Grand Marais Public Library facilities and grounds immediately revoked. Repeat offenders or persons ordered from the premises who do not comply may be subject to arrest and prosecution for trespassing. The Grand Marais Public Library seeks to both protect the rights of individual customers to use the libraries as well as the rights of all patrons to safe and positive access to library materials and buildings.

Disruptive behavior in the library includes, but is not limited to:

- Running, chasing, horseplay
- Screaming, shouting, yelling, loud laughing or other noise
- Abnormal, erratic behavior that hinders normal library use
- Continued or frequent loud talking
- Sexual activity
- Pushing, hitting, fighting, biting
- Throwing books or other objects
- Prolonged crying or temper tantrums
- Bullying or bothering other people
- Foul, rude, threatening or abusive language and actions
- Use or possession of alcohol or controlled substance
- Personal hygiene that disrupts others' use of library facility
- Campaigning, petitioning, interviewing, or surveying without permission

At the discretion of the staff, persons engaging in disruptive behavior will:

1. Receive a warning
2. Be asked to leave the premises if the behavior persists
3. Be escorted off the premises by law enforcement if necessary

People who egregiously or repeatedly disrupt the library may lose their library privileges, including the right to visit the library building and grounds.

Disruptive Children

Parents/caregivers are responsible for the behavior of their children while in the library. If a parent/caregiver refuses to control a child, they will be asked to leave.

If a parent/caregiver cannot be located in the library, the staff are to attempt to contact them by phone. If such individual cannot be reached or cannot come to pick up the child, law enforcement will be called to escort the child out of the library. Unattended children over the age of twelve are to be asked to leave and escorted to the door. Action by the

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staff may vary depending on the maturity of the child, the time of day, weather conditions, or type of behavior problem involved.

Illegal behavior will not be tolerated in the library and the police will be called.

Illegal behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Vandalism of library property
- Assault
- Violating City Ordinances or State Statutes
- Indecent exposure
- Sexual molestation of minors
- Possession, display or use of an illegal weapon
- Theft of another patron's property
- Using false identification
- Smoking
- Removing library materials from the library without checking them out.

The Grand Marais Public Library Board reviews all policies every five years or as deemed necessary.