Standards of Acceptable Behavior

The Garden City Public Library is a tax-supported facility, and citizens expect and deserve a clean, quiet, pleasant and safe environment. Unfortunately, the behavior of one or a few Library visitors may destroy this environment. Behavior becomes unacceptable when it interferes with other persons’ use of the Library, when it could result in injury to oneself or others, or when it could result in loss or damage to patron or Library property. Engagement in such behavior may subject the individual(s) involved to exclusion from Library premises and, in some cases, to legal prosecution.

Examples of unacceptable Library behavior include:

- Abuse/vandalism of Library facilities, materials or equipment
- Attempting to access Garden City Public Library computer programs or computer system software, which is restricted to staff use
- Bathing/washing clothes in restrooms
- Body odor/perfume/cologne (excessive) which elicits general complaint or causes discomfort to other Library users
- Cell phone use other than in the lobby, Step Down Café and outside of the Library building. Cell phone use that is disturbing to other patrons.
- Chewing/spitting tobacco
- Drinking of alcoholic beverages
- Eating or drinking in the Computer Lab
- Eating (except in the Step Down Café area or at duly approved meetings or Library programs when so requested by the sponsor)
- Excessive public displays of affection
- Exhibitionism/flashing or other inappropriate actions
- Gambling
- Harassment or physical, sexual or verbal abuse of Library users or staff
- Lack of acceptable clothing and footwear
- Leaving children unsupervised under the age of 10 years old
- Loitering, including refusal to leave promptly at closing
- Noisy behavior, including whistling, loud talking, and disruptive use of cell phones
- Occupation of more than one seat or study space, or placing feet/legs on tables or chairs
- Overcrowding at study tables or carrels (limit of four per study table)
- Possession of an animal (except service animals) in the Library
- Possession of dangerous weapon(s)
- Refusal to show ID, or submit possessions for inspection to Library staff upon request
- Running
- Skating, including use of skates, skateboards and inline skates
- Sleeping
- Smoking and vaping substances of any kind on Library grounds (including the parking lot) and anywhere in the Library building including the entrance lobby, meeting rooms, restrooms, and Step Down Café
- Soliciting
- Stealing, defacing, or mutilating Library property
- Theft
- Use of radios/TV’s without headphones
- Use of inappropriate gender restrooms
- Visible intoxication from alcohol or drugs
- Voyeurism/Peeping
- Any unlawful behavior and any other behavior that unreasonably interferes with the use of the Library by other persons

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