



Edmeston Free Library

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Patron Code of Conduct

The Edmeston Free Library seeks to provide a safe, secure, and welcoming environment for all patrons and staff. For that reason, behaviors that disrupt Library services are not permitted. The following rules apply to all public spaces and on Library property.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The following behaviors are not permitted:

1. Disrupting Library use, services, or operations.
2. Engaging in lewd behavior or indecent exposure.
3. Displaying or printing images of child pornography, or those which are sexually explicit, obscene, or harmful to minors, are expressly prohibited under NYS Penal Laws.
4. Harassing or threatening Library users or staff including staring, following, filming, or photographing without permission.
5. Unwanted physical encounters will result in immediate removal from the premises and possible police involvement and charges.
6. Smoking, chewing, and using tobacco and cannabis products, including vaping and electronic cigarettes.
7. Making unreasonable use of public restrooms, including laundering clothes and bathing. Bringing Library property into the restrooms is prohibited.
8. Using obscene or abusive language or gestures.
9. Using, possessing, selling, or appearing under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
10. Carrying uncovered drinks and consuming food except in designated areas. Drinks in closed containers are allowed unless noted.
11. Using rollerblades, skates, skateboards, bicycles, and scooters(except when carried).
12. Blocking sidewalks or entrances to the library, or obstructing any passageway within the library
13. Entering "Staff Only" areas or workspaces without permission
14. Bringing oversized items such as large suitcases or sports equipment, large bags, etc.
15. Leaving bags unattended. Staff may take them and eventually put them in storage or turn them over to law enforcement.
16. Bringing animals to the Library other than part of a scheduled program. Service animals are allowed. Animals may not be tied to Library property.
17. Petitioning, selling, canvassing, and/or soliciting for services, money, items, or endorsements.
18. Damaging, destroying, defacing, or misusing any Library materials or property. This includes disabling or unplugging Library equipment, changing hardware or software, or using a Library computer for purposes not designated or permitted.
19. Possessing any weapon (except by law enforcement officers)

20. Exhibiting personal hygiene behaviors that disturb other patrons. Visitors must wear clothing, including shirts and shoes. Causing strong pervasive odors, including those caused by perfume or body odor is not permitted.
21. Making unreasonable noise (talk or music or other noise). This includes loud talk in person or on phones or tablets (with or without headphones) at a volume that disturbs others. When possible, silence your phone and take calls in a remote part of the Library or outside.
22. Monopolizing Library space, equipment, or outlets to the exclusion of others.
23. Engaging in any activity that violates federal, state, local, or other applicable law or Library policies.

ENFORCEMENT

* Those failing to follow the rules listed above will be given a copy of the Library Code of Conduct and be asked to comply immediately. An individual may be asked for identification if observed in violation of these rules. Those failing to comply will be asked to leave. If violators do not leave, the police will be called and the Library will file trespassing charges.

* The Board of Trustees and the Library Director will be notified of the issue. A patron may lose their library card and be deemed to be a persona non grata.

* A person banned from the Library and/or Internet may appeal the ban by sending a written request to the Library Director explaining the circumstances and requesting a review of the persona non grata designation. The director will respond within a reasonable time of such a request with a written decision.