

RULES & REGULATIONS GOVERNING CONDUCT IN THE SALEM PUBLIC LIBRARY

In order to provide an atmosphere conducive to the appropriate use of its service and facilities, the Salem Public Library requires the public to comply with the following rules and regulations:

1. Improper conduct is prohibited. The following forms of conduct shall be considered improper:
 - Disorderly conduct (one warning, then out)
 - Obscene or abusive language or acts (one warning, then out)
 - Presence in the library or on library grounds while under the influence of any intoxicant, narcotic, or similar substance (police will be called)
 - Use of any intoxicant, narcotic, or similar substance on the library premises (police will be called)
 - Gambling (one warning, then out)
 - Smoking (one warning, then out)
 - Mutilating or defacing any library property (police will be called)
2. Patrons, while in the library building, shall be engaged in activities normally associated with the use of the library. Patrons not engaged in reading, studying, using library materials or other appropriate activities, may, after one warning, be asked to leave the building.
3. Patrons shall not interfere with the use of the library by other patrons, nor shall they interfere with library employees' performance of their duties. (one warning, then out)
4. Patrons shall respect the rights of other patrons and library employees and shall not harass or annoy others through noisy or boisterous activities, by following another person about the library with intent to annoy that person, by playing audio equipment so that others can hear it, or by behaving in any manner which can reasonably be expected to annoy other persons. (one warning, then out)
5. All library materials must be charged out in accordance with established procedures prior to removal from the library; otherwise, the police will be called.
6. All briefcases, oversize handbags, carryalls, luggage, packages, overcoats, and shopping bags are subject to inspection by the library staff.
7. Library staff may, for good cause related to any apparent breach of these rules and regulations, request a patron to provide proper identification.
8. Animals, other than guide animals are not permitted in the library building. (animal out immediately)
9. Parents are responsible for the behavior and safety of their children in the library, whether or not the parents are present. Children aged 10 and under must always be accompanied by a responsible adult or a sibling over the age of 13 while in the library. The library expects those accompanying children aged 10 and under to be in direct supervision of the children, which means that they should be able to see the children at all times. Those failing to supervise the children in this manner will be warned once and then asked to leave if it happens again in the same visit. If no responsible adult or other care-giver can be found, the police will be called after 30 minutes. Children should be picked up no later than five minutes before closing time; the police will be notified about any children left alone at the library at closing.