

# Code of Conduct

**Purpose:** The Santa Rosa County Library System seeks to provide its users with a safe and pleasant library experience in an atmosphere conducive to study, reading and appropriate use of materials and services. So that all persons may enjoy the benefits of our libraries, individuals visiting or using our library facilities or services must comply with the following guidelines for library use:

- Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
- Parents/guardians are responsible for minor children (under 18) on library grounds including monitoring their Internet use.
- The library manager may restrict adult use of children's areas.
- For personal safety, library patrons must be fully clothed and appropriately dressed at all times, which includes shirts or dresses; pants, shorts, or skirts; and footwear.
- All libraries are smoke free including restrooms, meeting rooms, and building entrances/exits. Smoking is permitted only in designated areas.
- Food and open drinks should be enjoyed outside the library.
- Alcoholic beverages are not allowed in any library facility including meeting rooms.
- Weapons of any kind are prohibited on library property with the exception of those carried by duly sworn law enforcement officers or persons licensed to carry weapons.
- People, animals, or property must not block aisles, doorways, or ramps. Large objects such as carts, bicycles, wagons, and luggage may not be brought into library facilities. Personal property should be kept within sight of the owner.
- Persons who remain at library facilities after closing and who need assistance to return home may be referred to the police in order to ensure their safety.
- Roller skates, scooters, skateboards or other similar devices must not be used on library property.
- Sleeping or lying on the floor or furniture is prohibited.
- Indecent exposure, including but not limited to having sex and/or exhibiting lewd and offensive nakedness, is prohibited.
- Vandalizing or abusing library materials, equipment, or facilities is prohibited.
- Soliciting money, donations, or signatures is not allowed.
- Selling of merchandise without the prior authorization of the library director is prohibited.
- Unreasonable use of rest rooms, including laundering and bathing, is prohibited.
- Entering or attempting to enter a library building while suspended from another library is not permitted.
- Animals, other than service animals (dogs only) assisting persons with disabilities and animals used in library sponsored programs, are not permitted inside library facilities or within 20 feet of any door.
- Any activity that unreasonably interferes with library users or staff comfort, safety, use or quiet and peaceful enjoyment of the library is not allowed including but not limited to:
  - \*Harassing or threatening library users or staff.
  - \*Staring at, following, or photographing library users or staff.
  - \*Strong pervasive odors including odors caused by perfume or cologne.
  - \*Making any loud or unreasonable noise or other disturbance, including disruptive use of personal communication or entertainment devices including cell phones.

Persons who violate these guidelines may receive a warning from the library staff and/or an opportunity to cease the violation or leave the library. Illegal activity, as well as any willful or repeated violations of these guidelines or other posted library regulations (e.g. computer and Internet use rules), may result in removal from the facility and/or suspension of library privileges. In addition, where authorized by federal, state, or local law, violations of these guidelines may also result in arrest.