



Patron Code of Conduct

The following Patron Code of Conduct was developed by the Grinnell Public Library District Board of Trustees to ensure a positive atmosphere in the Library's facilities. In order to ensure constructive use of Library facilities, materials and services, as well as the personal comfort of all patrons, the Board of Trustees has established the following rules for use.

1. Patrons are welcome to use the materials, facilities and grounds of the Library as long as such use does not disrupt the use by others.
2. Patrons shall be engaged in activities associated with the use of the public Library while on the Library premises.
3. Noise should be maintained at levels that ensure a quiet environment for reading and study. Cell phones should be silenced or set to vibrate during library visits. Electronic devices may be used with headphones, however, noise from headphones must not be audible to others.
4. Conversations should be kept in low voices as a courtesy to others. If you would like to hold a meeting or study group in the Library, Library approval is required.
5. Unacceptable Library behavior includes: misconduct such as sleeping, public drunkenness, the use of profane language or obscene gestures, running, staring, soliciting, loitering, littering, damaging property, drug usage, sale or exchange of alcohol or drugs, loud talking and laughing, running, pushing, fighting or challenging another to a fight, and other offensive behavior.
6. Harassing or excessive disturbance of the Library staff is prohibited.
7. Food, drinks, or illegal substances must not be brought into the building. Individuals observed with such items will be asked to surrender them immediately.
8. Any Library patron who vandalizes, steals, or destroys any Library materials, equipment or property components will forfeit all Library privileges and will be subject to financial liability for damages.
9. The Library assumes no responsibility for the care and supervision of children. Parents or caregivers must supervise the behavior of their children.
10. Please do not offer unsolicited advice or assistance to patrons. If you feel there is such a need, please contact a staff member immediately.
11. Any kind of audio and/or visual recording on Library premises requires approval of the Library Director and usually requires the permission of the person being recorded.



12. No animals are allowed in the Library with the exception of those assisting persons with disabilities.
13. Patrons are required to wear acceptable clothing including shirts and footwear.
14. Patrons shall comply with all applicable rules and regulations established by New York State, Dutchess County, the Town of Wappinger, the Village of Wappingers Falls, and the Library District.
15. Grinnell Public Library District reserves the right to inspect bags, purses and briefcases of patrons. If patrons refuse such inspection, they will be asked to remain until the authorities can be called to conduct such an inspection.

Patrons are encouraged to report concerns to the Director or staff.

Loss of Library Privileges

Engaging in any of the above behaviors may result in one or more of the following consequences, at the discretion of the Library Director, depending on the severity of the violation: initial warning with a copy of the Patron Code of Conduct; library privileges suspended for seven days; library privileges suspended for thirty days; library privileges suspended for up to one year. Patrons who are suspended from the library for a period exceeding one day may petition to have their suspension reviewed by the Director, and then by the Library's Board of Trustees.

Patron Code of Conduct amended by the Board of Trustees on 2/23/24