

Ripon Public Library Behavior Policy

This Behavior Policy has been created and adopted by the Ripon Public Library Board of Trustees to ensure a safe, orderly, and comfortable environment in which all library patrons can use the library's resources most effectively.

The following rules are posted for the comfort and protection of all library users and staff. Violations of the rules may result in the loss of library privileges.

The following behaviors are not allowed:

1. Any illegal activity, including stealing, damaging, or altering any library property.
2. Attempting to remove from the library any library books, magazines, videos, CDs, or other materials that have not been properly checked out.
3. Failure to follow reasonable directives or instructions from a library staff member.
4. Threatening, harassing, menacing, or intimidating other library patrons or staff.
5. Disruption of public use of the library. This includes, but is not limited to, loud or boisterous behavior, verbal or physical harassment, drunkenness, running and fighting.
6. Smoking or chewing tobacco or vaping. This includes the use of tobacco products or electronic cigarettes anywhere on library property.
7. Consumption of alcoholic beverages.
8. Littering in the building and on library grounds.
9. Selling products or services or soliciting donations except as part of a library-sponsored program or as allowed in the Meeting Room Policy.
10. Loitering in the building or on library property.
11. Entering or attempting to enter any area of the building or grounds marked as restricted or for staff only without permission.
12. Relocating library furniture without permission except in the Silver Creek and Nash Rooms.
13. Failure to wear proper attire or footwear (e.g. shoes or sandals).
14. Poor personal hygiene or actions or behavior that constitute a nuisance or a health, safety, or sanitary risk to others.
15. Bringing in personal belongings with a foul odor or that constitute a health, safety, or sanitary risk to others.
16. Bringing bicycles or scooters into the library. (Bicycles and scooters must be parked in the bike rack or along the side of the building so as to not interfere with access to the building or parking lot.)
17. Skateboarding, roller skating or riding scooters on library walkways or the parking lot, except to travel to or from the library. (Roller skates, in-line skates and wheelies may not be used in the library.)
18. Bringing animals into the library building except for service animals or service-animals-in-training as defined by Title II and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Wis. Stat. 106.52(1)(fm), and the 2005 Wisconsin Act 354 unless as part of an approved program or event pre-approved by library staff and

administration. Animals are required to be licensed as necessary. Emotional support animals are not permitted in the library building.

19. Possession of firearms, whether concealed or openly carried unless carried by authorized law enforcement personnel, or other weapons.

Please note that food may be consumed discreetly and drinks must be in covered or closeable containers, unless otherwise approved for a specific event.

Should a patron be in violation of this policy, the Library Director may ban a patron from using the library for a period of up to one month. The Library Director may extend a ban up to three months when there is a second incident within a twelve-month period and up to twelve months when there is a third incident in a twelve-month period.

“The library board may exclude from use of the public library all persons who willfully violate such regulations.” (Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 43.52 (2)) In addition, violators may face legal action, including possible charges of violation of municipal or state ordinances.

Adopted May 9, 2001; Revised June 28, 2011, February 25, 2014, July 30, 2024