

Sanibel Public Library District

Code of Conduct Policy

The Sanibel Public Library District (the "library") welcomes every member of the community to use and enjoy the library facility, collections, programs, and services. The Code of Conduct Policy defines expectations for behavior for all patrons regardless of age.

Library patrons are expected to:

- Respect other patrons and library staff.
- Respect library property.
- Obey the law.
- Comply with requests from library staff.

The Code of Conduct Policy applies to all patrons. It applies everywhere that the library provides service, whether on library property, in the community, through our website or [social media](#), and by phone or email. Patrons are responsible for safeguarding their personal belongings. Parents, guardians, or designated caregivers are responsible for the personal safety and behavior of the individuals in their care at all times.

Library staff will intervene to stop prohibited activities and behaviors. Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct may result in suspension of library privileges, removal from the property, and/or referral to law enforcement as appropriate.

[Security video recording](#) of the library is in use for safety and security. Bags may be subject to search when leaving the library.

The following are examples of behavior and activities that are not allowed (including but not limited to):

Unsafe or Disruptive to Others – Any activity that unreasonably interferes with others' use and enjoyment of the library or disrupts the functions of library staff. Some examples include but are not limited to:

- Interfering with library staff in the performance of their duties, inappropriate personal comments, leering, sexual advances, or physical and/or verbal harassment
- Interfering with the free passage of library staff or others
- Use of profane, obscene, or aggressive language and/or gestures and excessive displays of affection
- Activities or behaviors that may result in injury or harm to self or others
- Violation of the library's [Pets Policy](#)
- Wearing clothing that violates other components of the library's Code of Conduct expectations (profane language, sexual references, etc.)
- Not wearing appropriate clothing (pants, shirts, shoes, etc.)
- Noise considered loud enough to impact other library users' experience negatively
- Bodily hygiene or scent so strong as to constitute a nuisance to others
- Violation of the library's [Child Safety Policy](#)
- Failing to properly supervise your child
- Smoking, vaping or consuming alcohol
- Violation of the library's [Food and Drink Policy](#)

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Inappropriate Use of Library Privileges or Property – Using library privileges, materials, equipment, fixtures, building, or grounds in any manner other than intended. Some examples include but are not limited to:

- Entering non-public areas in the library without authorization and/or escort
- Posting signs on library property without prior approval or in violation of the library's [Community Information Policy](#)
- Activities or behavior that may result in damage to library property or the property of others
- Use of restrooms for bathing, shaving, or washing hair or clothes
- Any solicitation inside or outside of library property that does not comply with the library's [Solicitation Policy](#)
- Violation of the library's [Internet Access and Use Policy](#)
- Misuse or abuse of library equipment or materials
- Behavior or activities that present a health or sanitation concern

Illegal – Any observable behavior that is prohibited by law. Some examples include but are not limited to:

- Intimidating, threatening, or harassing behavior towards other patrons or library staff
- Theft
- Viewing or printing child pornography
- Open display or open carry of non-firearm weapons, including knives
- Use, display, or distribution of alcohol or drugs
- Public intoxication

Noncompliance with Staff – Ignoring requests or disobeying the direction of a library staff member.

If a patron violates a library policy, the patron will be verbally notified of the violation by library staff and asked to depart the library property for the remainder of the day. Depending on the circumstances, the patron may be welcome to return on the next open day of business.

If continual or more serious violation of library policy occurs, library staff may suspend the patron's library privileges. This includes access to all library activities, services, or property.

If a patron has been suspended and then returns to the library, that patron is trespassing. Library staff will call the police and request that any trespassing individuals be removed from the library property.

Library Policy
Sanibel Public Library District Board of Commissioners
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