

Sanibel Public Library District

Food and Drink 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 Food and Drink Policy balances patron comfort – particularly for those using the library for extended periods – with the needs to protect library collections, technology, furnishings, and facilities.

Patrons consuming food or beverages must:

- Consume food and drink in a manner that does not disrupt others, create safety hazards, or damage library property.
- Dispose of containers, wrappers, and other trash in appropriate receptacles in a timely manner.
- Keep food and beverages attended at all times; unattended items may be discarded.
- Report spills or messes immediately to library staff.

Beverages

Non-alcoholic beverages are permitted in all public areas of the library, except where specifically prohibited. All beverages must be in covered, spill-resistant containers (e.g., bottles, tumblers, cups with secure lids).

Food

Prepackaged, low-mess food is permitted in all public areas of the library, except where specifically prohibited. Other food is permitted in designated eating areas only, unless expressly approved by staff. Designated eating areas are limited to the Level 1 lobby seating area and kitchenette, the Level 2 reading porch, and anywhere outside the library, as clearly identified by signage. Children must be supervised by a responsible caregiver while consuming food.

Any food or drink that may damage library property or interfere with library use by others are not permitted. Examples of food not permitted include greasy, sticky, or strongly scented foods, or food requiring extensive preparation.

Patrons with food allergies or dietary concerns are responsible for monitoring their own consumption and that of children in their care. The library does not monitor ingredients in food brought in by patrons or served during programs.

Meeting / Conference Room Usage

The [Meeting Room Use Policy](#) contains details for food and drinks in the meeting and conference rooms. This exception exists outside of this Food and Drink Policy. A clean-up fee may be assessed in these spaces.

Enforcement

Library staff may require patrons to relocate, remove, or dispose of food or beverages that are not in compliance with this policy. Failure to comply with staff direction may result in removal from the library or suspension of library privileges as outlined in the [Code of Conduct Policy](#).

Library Policy
Sanibel Public Library District Board of Commissioners
Adopted 4/23/2026