

AMHERST PUBLIC LIBRARY

Code of Conduct

Resolution # R-22-11-5

The purpose of the Library Code of Conduct is to guarantee a safe and pleasant environment for all library patrons. It also ensures uninterrupted access to library facilities, the safety of patrons and staff, and the protection of the library collection, equipment and facilities.

Patrons have the responsibility to use the library in a manner that

- a) does not interfere with the rights of others to use the library's materials and services;
- b) does not limit the ability of library staff to conduct business; and
- c) does not threaten the secure and comfortable library environment.

Prohibited conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1) Any illegal activity;
- 2) Creating excessive noise, or otherwise behaving in a loud, boisterous manner, which interferes with the rights of others;
- 3) Using an electronic device in a manner that disrupts library operations;
- 4) Willfully annoying, harassing, or threatening another person;
- 5) Using profanity;
- 6) Misuse of library building, equipment, or furniture in a manner that could cause harm to self, patrons, staff, or property;
- 7) Impeding access to the building or an area of the building, including leaving animals, bicycles or personal items in library entrances or walkways;
- 8) Consuming alcohol, using controlled substances, or being intoxicated on library grounds;
- 9) Bringing animals into the building, except as permitted by ADA regulations regarding the use of service animals;
- 10) Entering non-public areas of the library unless accompanied by a staff member; and
- 11) Panhandling on library property.

Disruptive patrons will be asked to leave Library property for a period of time based on the severity of the offense, the patron's history, policy violations, and any other relevant factors. For suspensions longer than seven days, patrons must meet with the Library Administrator following the suspension period to discuss continued use of the Library before they can regain access to the property and building.

The Library Administrator will make decisions about reinstatement of privileges. Decisions of the Library Administrator may be appealed via USPS mail to the Amherst Public Library Board of Trustees, 221 Spring Street, Amherst, Ohio 44001.