Rules of conduct in the Library or on Library property

Welcome to the Siskiyou County Library. The Library is supported by the taxes of the people of the County of Siskiyou who expect each of our facilities to be clean, comfortable, and safe places for selecting materials, reading, researching, studying, writing, and attending programs and meetings. To this end, the Library is responsible for establishing rules of conduct to protect the rights and safety of Library patrons, volunteers, and staff, and for preserving and protecting the Library's materials, equipment, facilities, and grounds. In addition, the Library has a strong commitment to intellectual freedom and to freedom of access to information.

Enforcement of these rules will be conducted in a fair and reasonable manner. Library staff will intervene to stop prohibited activities and behaviors. Failure to comply with the Library's established rules, regulations, and policies could result in removal from the premises and exclusion from the library for a period of one day to a permanent exclusion, or in arrest or prosecution. Violations could also result in the restriction and/or termination of Library privileges.

The Library reserves the right to search bags, briefcases, backpacks or other similar types of carrying cases.

The following activities and behaviors are prohibited on library grounds:

Illegal Activities

Engaging in any activity in violation of Federal, State, local or other applicable law, or Library policy including:

(a) Maliciously deface, cut, mar, or otherwise damage any County library structure, furniture, equipment, or materials;

(b) Maliciously damage in any way the grounds or facilities around any County library.

Unacceptable Personal Behavior

1. Being under the influence of any alcohol or illegal drugs, and selling, using, or possessing alcohol or illegal drugs.
2. Verbally or physically threatening or harassing other patrons, volunteers, or staff, including, but not limited, stalking, staring, lurking, engaging in sexual misconduct such as sex acts and indecent exposure, and using obscene or abusive language.
3. Fighting or challenging to fight, running, pushing, shoving, or throwing things.
4. Engaging in disruptive behavior that unreasonably disturbs others or interferes with patrons or staff of the library, including, but not limited to, creating disruptive noises such as loud talking, screaming, persistent crying, or banging on furniture or equipment.
5. Entering the library barefoot, or with body odor or personal hygiene which is so offensive as to constitute a nuisance, or being otherwise attired so as to be disruptive to the library environment.
6. Neglecting to provide proper supervision of children. Leaving Children under the age of seven (7) unattended is prohibited.

Prohibited Items

1. Carrying firearms and dangerous weapons of any type (except law enforcement officers) prohibited by ordinance, state law, or federal law.

2. Consuming food or beverages in public areas of the Library not authorized by the Library Food and Beverage Guidelines.

3. Using audible devises without headphones or with headphones set at a volume that disturbs others. Using cell phones, pagers, and other communication devices in a manner that disturbs

others. Audible cell phone and pager ringers must be set to vibrate or a low level.

4. Smoking, chewing, and other tobacco use in Library facilities or within twenty (20) feet of all entrances.

5. Bringing in articles that are too large to fit under one Library chair.

6. Bringing pets or animals, other than service animals necessary for disabilities, into the library. Exceptions for pets or animals used for programs or events may be made by library staff.

Improper Use of Facilities

1. Soliciting funds, panhandling, selling, advertising or conducting surveys not authorized by the Library.

2. Trespassing in nonpublic areas of the Library and grounds, being in the library without permission after Library operating hours, or camping on Library grounds.

3. Using restrooms for bathing, shaving, shampooing or doing laundry.

4. Using wheeled devices in the library or on library grounds, except in designated areas, including skateboarding, roller-skating, bicycling, scooters, and shopping carts (except for wheelchairs, walkers, and strollers).

5. Lying down or sleeping in the restrooms or on any floor, blocking aisles, exits, or entrances, loitering in and around entrances so as to block access.

6. Plugging personal devices into the Library's network or tampering in any manner with Library equipment.

Noncompliance with Staff

1. Failing to comply with a reasonable staff request.
2. Refusing to leave the library when requested by library staff.

Siskiyou County Library enforces its Patron Behavior Policy and the County Code:

Sec. 4-9.01. Unlawful acts.

It shall be unlawful for any person to do any of the following acts in or about any County library:

(a) Maliciously deface, cut, mar, or otherwise damage any County library structure, furniture, equipment, or materials;

(b) Maliciously damage in any way the grounds or facilities around any County library;

(c) Give other than his lawful name, address, and telephone number for the purpose of using any library facility, or checking out books, or receiving any library materials or equipment, or when such information is requested of him by the County Librarian or other person in charge of a County library;

(d) By means of unnecessary noise, action, or conduct, disturb others who are making reasonable use of library facilities;

(e) Loiter within any County library with the intent to violate any of the provisions of subsections (a), (b), (c), or (d) of this section; or

(f) Upon any violation of the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, or after any County library has been closed to the public, refuse or fail to leave the building or grounds thereof promptly when so requested by the County Librarian or person in charge of a County library. (§ 1, Ord. 553, eff. December 24, 1971)