

<b>Brookings Public Library Policy:</b>	Title: <b>Acceptable Behavior Policy</b>	
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## I. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines of acceptable behavior in the Library to provide everyone with an equal opportunity to use the library facilities.

## II. POLICY

Library trustees may make all necessary rules and regulations pertaining to the use and management of the library building as are not inconsistent with state law. This policy is to ensure that library facilities are safe, welcoming and provide equitable access to materials and services for all library users. Appropriate library conduct includes activities such as reading, studying, properly using library materials or computers and other similar conduct normally associated with a public library.

This Policy and the following library regulations are established to provide everyone with an equal opportunity to use the library facilities. A person who repeatedly violates library policies may be barred from using the library facilities for a period not to exceed 6 months. The Library Board will determine whether repeated violations will result in the prohibited use of library facilities.

## III. DEFINITIONS

- A. Vandalism: an action involving deliberate destruction of or damage to public or private property
- B. Harassment: behavior that annoys or troubles someone.

## IV. ADMINISTRATION

- A. The following inappropriate behaviors, without limitation by the enumeration in this Policy, are prohibited in the Brookings Public Library
  - a) Destroying or damaging Library materials, equipment or furniture.
  - b) Vandalism of Library property.
  - c) Unsanitary habits which create unclean or unsanitary conditions within the Library building.
  - d) Smoking or vaping in the Library building or within 20 ft of any entrance.
  - e) Refusing to follow the reasonable directions of library staff, including, for example, failing to take shelter in an emergency as directed by staff.
  - f) Refusal to leave the Library building at designated closing times or when requested by Library Staff.

- g) Engaging in any behavior that a reasonable person would find to be annoying, disruptive, harassing, or threatening in nature to library users or staff including stalking, prolonged staring at another person, following another person with the intent to annoy, or intentionally behaving in a manner that could reasonably be expected to annoy or disturb other patrons.
  - h) Engaging in excessive or disruptive conversations, talking loudly, using personal electronic equipment at such a volume or making ongoing noise that is unreasonably disturbing to other library users.
  - i) Running in the building.
  - j) Consumption of alcohol or illegal substances in the Library.
  - k) Engaging in any other activities that disrupt library services.
- B. The Library and staff are not liable/responsible for unattended personal items. Staff cannot monitor personal items for patrons.
- C. While patrons of all ages are welcome to browse and check out materials from the Children's or Young Adult collections, the use of seating and activities within these spaces is reserved exclusively for the use of children or teens and their parents/caregivers.

The Children's and Young Adult areas are reserved for children or teens and those who accompany them as well as those adults interested in children's and young adult literature. Adults 18 and over not accompanying a child or teen may be asked to leave the specified area at any time.
- D. Beverages with lids and food items may be consumed in the Library except when using Library computers. No food is allowed within the Maker Lab.
- E. In the case of unacceptable behavior by minor children, parents will be notified of their behavior. Supervision of children is the responsibility of parents. See Library Board Policy on Unattended Children.