



Approved by the Board of Trustees
December 2, 1996
Revised June 26, 2000
Revised August 27, 2001
Revised January 23, 2006
Revised February 27, 2006
Revised February 28, 2011

Greenville County Library System Code of Conduct

The Greenville County Library System (hereinafter referred to as "Library") strives to provide and maintain inviting facilities where individuals feel welcomed and valued. To promote orderly conduct and to help protect Library staff, patrons, and property, the Library Board of Trustees has established behavior regulations.

Behavioral regulations will be enforced by Library staff in a fair and reasonable manner. Parents and caregivers, not Library staff, are responsible for the actions and safety of children visiting the Library. However, Library staff and/or law enforcement officers are authorized to stop prohibited activities and behaviors.

Any individual's failure to comply with the Library's established regulations and policies may result in an individual's restriction/termination of Library privileges, exclusion from Library property for the remainder of the day to permanent exclusion, and/or arrest/prosecution. Any individual excluded from Library property may appeal in writing to the Library Executive Director. Disputed decisions of the Executive Director may be appealed in writing to the Library Board.

Unruly, inappropriate or annoying behavior; violations of Federal, State, or local laws; and violations of Library policy are prohibited. Examples of prohibited activities and behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- o Possessing, consuming, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- o Engaging in sexual activity of any kind.
- o Threatening or committing acts of physical violence.
- o Displaying material inconsistent with *Internet Use Policy* standards.
- o Possessing weapons or other items deemed by Library staff as potentially dangerous to others.
- o Intentionally damaging, destroying or stealing any property belonging to the Library, patrons or staff.
- o Prolonged display of physical affection.
- o Failing to heed program attendance limits.
- o Failing to heed requests of Library staff in relation to potential Code of Conduct violations or other Library business.
- o Removing, altering, relocating or misusing Library furnishings.
- o Using obscene or abusive language or engaging in obscene/intimidating actions.
- o Creating disruptive noises such as loud talking, screaming, or banging on Library furnishings.

- Interfering in any way with the free movement of others.
- Persistent staring at others or following others around on Library property.
- Attempting to enter nonpublic areas of a Library facility.
- Failing to silence all electronic devices. All sound produced by electronic devices must be silenced or audible only to the user.
- Talking on cell phones except in designated areas.
- Consuming food or beverages outside an approved or designated area with exception of baby bottles for infants and toddlers. Food and beverage containers must be kept out of sight.
- Sleeping.
- Bringing into the building any large or cumbersome items, such as bicycles, bedrolls, luggage, etc.
- Creating an obstruction for others entering or exiting buildings or while on Library property.
- Smoking or using tobacco products. Skateboarding or skating on Library grounds.
- Selling and/or soliciting for services, money or products.
- Distributing or posting printed material/literature that has not been approved by Library Administration.
- Bringing animals, other than service animals, onto Library premises without staff approval.
- Using photographic, video or other recording devices without Library staff approval.
- Entering a Library facility without footwear and a shirt, pants or other covering of the upper and lower body. Carried children are exempt from the footwear requirement.
- Bodily hygiene that is offensive so as to constitute a nuisance to others.
- Misusing public restrooms. Bathing, shaving, or lingering is prohibited.
- Caregivers allowing children under 4 years old to use a Library computer without the hands-on supervision of someone 15 years of age or older.
- Caregivers leaving children under 11 years of age unattended or in the care of someone less than 15 years old. Caregivers must remain in the same area of a Library as the child being cared for.
- Caregivers failing to pick up children or youth under age 18 at a Library by the facility's closing time.
- Adults lingering in the teen or children's area when unaccompanied by children being cared for.