



BUNCOMBE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES RULES OF CONDUCT

PURPOSE

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.

POLICY

The Library is responsible for establishing rules of conduct. All Library users are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that shows respect for others visiting or working at the Library. Failure to comply with the Library's established rules, regulations, and policies could result in removal from the Library and arrest or prosecution.

Violations could also result in the restriction and/or suspension of Library privileges.

The following are examples of behaviors that are not allowed in Library buildings or on Library grounds:

1. Failing to comply with or ignoring a reasonable directive of a Library staff member or security officer.
2. Engaging in any conduct that disrupts or interferes with the normal operation of the Library or that disturbs Library staff or individuals. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to: abusive or threatening language or gestures or unreasonably loud or boisterous physical behavior, talking or noise.
3. Sleeping or giving the appearance of sleeping, lying on any surface, or putting feet on furniture or walls.
4. Smoking or using tobacco in Library buildings or on Library grounds (including the use of electronic smoking devices, chewing tobacco, rolling cigarettes or other tobacco use).
5. Consuming, possessing or being under the obvious influence of any intoxicating substance while on Library property.
6. Eating and/or drinking except at the discretion of the Library manager or designee. Drinking water is allowed and must be in a container with secured lid.
7. Use of cell phones or other electronic devices at a volume that is disturbing to others.
8. Bringing pets or other non-assisting animals onto Library property.
9. Interfering with the free movement or safe passage of others.
10. Obstructing aisles or monopolizing space with personal items
11. Bringing wheeled devices onto Library property or grounds, except in designated areas. Bicycles, motorized or non-motorized scooters, and shopping carts are examples of wheeled devices that are not allowed within Library buildings. Motorized ADA assistive devices, wheelchairs, walkers, and strollers used to transport persons are allowed.
12. Failing to maintain control of personal items or leaving items unattended, except in areas designated by Library staff in certain locations.
12. Use of Library computers or personal devices to access or display graphic materials and/or illegal content.
13. Failing to wear reasonable attire, including shirt and shoes.
14. Prolonged staring at or following any Library patron or staff member.
15. Making uninvited physical contact with any Library patron or staff member.
16. Panhandling, selling, campaigning, and/or soliciting for any purpose on Library grounds.
17. Theft and/or attempted theft.
18. Vandalism and/or destruction of Library property.
19. Entering staff-only or restricted areas.
20. Entering and/or remaining in the children's areas of branch libraries inconsistent with the following: Adults are permitted in children's areas of branch libraries or in the Youth Services Department at the Pack Library only when accompanied by a child or while the adult is actively in pursuit of materials from the children's areas of branch libraries or their Youth Services Department.
21. Using Library restrooms or water fountains for bathing, shaving or washing clothing.
22. Loitering in public restrooms.
23. Trespassing on Library property.
24. Posting notices or flyers on any surface not designated for the purpose.
25. Bringing weapons of any kind onto Library grounds or into Library buildings.
26. Entering the Library with hygiene conditions which constitute a nuisance to others, including, but not limited to: clothing odor, body odor, insects or pests, or unsanitary belongings.
27. Leaving children ages ten and under alone in the Library.
28. Leaving children five and under without direct supervision by a responsible caregiver, as defined in the Library's unattended children policy.
29. Leaving any child or adult accompanied by a caregiver ignored or under-attended while:
 - a. the behavior of the individual is disruptive or inappropriate (or)
 - b. the individual appears to be a danger to themselves or others (or)
 - c. the individual appears to be threatened by others (or)
 - d. the individual appears to be ill or upset (or)
 - e. the individual has not been met by a caregiver at closing.

These rules are not all inclusive of every behavior that will be regulated on Library property. The Buncombe County Public Libraries reserve the right to prohibit any behavior or actions which may be inappropriate or disruptive to Library business.