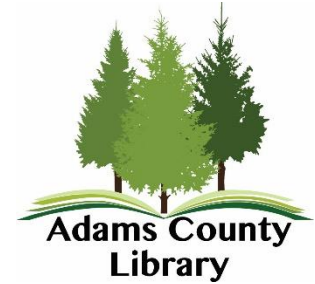


Adams County Library

Appropriate Library Behavior Policy



The Adams County Library Board of Trustees is committed to providing an atmosphere where people of all ages may come to read, browse, do research, or study. This policy permits quiet conversation between patrons and/or staff members, and conversation required to carry on Library programs or business. This policy is designed to preserve a reasonably quiet atmosphere where Library patrons may use Library services and materials without disturbance.

Inappropriate behavior includes any activity that interferes with Library operations; damages the building, property, or furnishings; or disturbs others through the use of rudeness, profanity, or any other behavior generally considered improper in a public place. To ensure the comfort and safety of staff and patrons, and to maintain order in the Library, inappropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to, the following conduct or behavior:

- Eating or drinking, except in designated areas or with Library staff permission. Beverages in closed containers are permitted (No beverages, closed or otherwise are permitted at the computers);
- Using a cell phone or other technology in a way that disturbs others;
- Loud, disruptive conversations, including shouting;
- Use of personal electronic equipment at a volume that can be heard by others;
- Engaging in any behavior that the reasonable Library user would find to be disruptive, harassing, or threatening in nature to Library users or staff, including stalking, prolonged staring at, or following another with the intent to annoy, or intentionally behaving in a manner that could reasonably be expected to annoy or disturb other patrons;
- Using or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs;
- Smoking, chewing or other tobacco use;
- Vaping or use of vaping products;
- Not wearing shoes or shirt within the Library premises;
- Blocking entry, aisles, or traffic areas;
- Loitering on the premises, including sleeping, except individuals using the library as an emergency warming or cooling shelter;
- Intentionally damaging Library materials, equipment, or furniture;
- Possessing a weapon or exhibiting any instrument in a threatening manner. (except for an on-duty law enforcement official);
- Bringing animals into the Library other than service animals or animals used in Library programming.

Library staff will enforce these guidelines so that the facility can be used to the fullest by all persons. Any person who is asked to leave the Library by a staff member for a violation of these guidelines or any other valid reason may be referred to the law enforcement agency for appropriate legal action. Questions regarding the interpretation of these guidelines will be referred to the Library Director or other staff member in charge.

Amended 3/17/2025