



Norton Public Library
BEHAVIOR POLICY

The Library Board of Trustees is responsible for determining the rules of behavior necessary to protect the rights of the individuals using library materials and services, to protect the rights of library employees, to conduct library business without interference, and to preserve library materials and facilities.

The Board believes that library patrons have the right to use library materials and services without being impeded by other library patrons; that patrons and employees have the right to an environment that is secure and comfortable; and that patrons and employees have a right to materials that are available and in good condition.

Theft, vandalism, or mutilation of library property are violations of Chapter 266, Section 99A and 100 of the Annotated Laws of Massachusetts and are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both.

RULES OF CONDUCT IN THE LIBRARY

1. *No smoking, chewing or other tobacco use, including use of electronic smoking devices.*
2. *Food or drink only as allowed in the Food and Drink policy.*
3. *No inappropriate attire, including but not limited to: bare feet, stocking feet, bare torso, obscenities on clothing or offensive odor that would be disruptive to the library environment.*
4. *No roller skates, roller blades, skateboards, cleats or other footwear that would be destructive to the facility.*
5. *No running, yelling, littering or abuse of library property.*
6. *No excessive displays of affection or expressions of physical intimacy.*
7. *No soliciting, distributing of leaflets or collecting of signatures without prior approval of the Director.*
8. *No animals except for service animals.*
9. *No loitering near, nor blocking of entrances.*
10. *Use of library telephones is limited to local calls on the public telephone.*
11. *No person shall threaten the safety or rights of another person on library premises by violent, riotous, or disorderly behavior, or by abusive, obscene or profane language or gestures.*
12. *No admittance to non-public areas of the building without express permission from supervisor.*
13. *No possession or use of alcohol, illegal drugs or dangerous weapons.*
14. *No disruptive behavior or conduct that interferes with the orderly operation of the library or the ability of others to use the library. Such disruptions are violations of Chapter 272, Section 41 of the Annotated Laws of Massachusetts. Violators may be asked to leave the facility. Police may be called if the staff feels there is a potential danger to themselves or the public.*

In addition, the following library policies/procedures have been adopted and are in effect at all times.

1. The library is not responsible for a patron's personal belongings left unattended.
2. In order to ensure equal access for all patrons, the library reserves the right to limit the time spent at certain machines or with controlled reference materials.
3. If a rule of conduct is violated, library privileges may be revoked.

*Approved by the Board 1996; Revised 6/13/2013;
Revised and Approved by the Board of Trustees 9/12/2017*