

POLICIES OF THE MECHANICVILLE DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY
RULES OF CONDUCT FOR LIBRARY USERS

Adopted 11/15/2005
Reviewed 8/21/2008
Revised 2013

Need for this Policy:

The Library needs this policy to promote and maintain a library atmosphere in which patron behavior is nonintrusive to others and materials are protected.

Statement:

The Board of Trustees believes that the patrons of the Mechanicville District Public Library have the right to use Library materials and services without being disturbed or impeded by others; that patrons and staff have the right to a safe environment, and to materials and facilities that are in good condition.

On the premises of Mechanicville District Public Library, federal, state and local laws and ordinances are applicable, especially those related to “Public Order” and “Criminal Mischief” (NYS Penal Law, Arts. 145 & 240), and to “Injuries to Property” (NYS Education Law, Art. 264).

Policy:

- I. No person shall engage in violent behavior; make unreasonable noise; use abusive or obscene language; physically or sexually harass others; obstruct pedestrian traffic; loiter; steal or damage library property; gamble; litter; or create a hazardous or physically offensive condition by any act.
- II. All patrons are expected to observe and respect the rights of other library users and staff. The library requires that patrons and staff maintain an environment conducive to study. All people on library premises are expected to be engaged in suitable educational, informational, or cultural activity. Conversation should be conducted as quietly as possible and be generally limited to library-oriented activities.
- III. Seating at library tables, carrels, and chairs is limited to the number of persons for whom the furniture or furniture arrangement was designed.
- IV. No eating, drinking or smoking is allowed in the public areas of the library. Only with the approval of the library administration, is the serving of light refreshments permitted in the library’s meeting room. The use of alcohol and illegal drugs is not permitted. People under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs will be asked to leave the premises.
- V. No animals are allowed in the library, except those which are part of a library sponsored program or those that assist disabled people.
- VI. Taking surveys, asking people to sign petitions, distributing leaflets, and other similar activities are permitted only when authorized by the library. Soliciting donations is not permitted. Selling products or services is not permitted.
- VII. Patrons are asked not to sleep in the library.
- VIII. Patrons are required to wear shoes and shirts.