

Patron Conduct

The North Hampton Public Library encourages people of all ages to visit the library. It is expected that all library visitors and users will act in a considerate manner toward other library users and staff members in order to insure a safe, comfortable environment conducive to study, reading and the legitimate use of library materials and services.

Behavior that disrupts the orderly use of the library, is in any way dangerous or unlawful, or affects the ability of the library staff to provide library services is prohibited. Disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to, loud or boisterous behavior; conversation or use of personal appliances such as cell phones or audio devices which disturbs other library users or staff members; abuse or misuse of library property, furniture, equipment or materials (RSA 202-A: 24); or actions that deliberately annoy others and prevent the legitimate use of the library and its resources. In addition the following specific actions are prohibited:

- No smoking anywhere in the library is prohibited. (RSA 155:66)
- No weapons of any sort are permitted in the library with the exception of law enforcement personnel in the performance of their duties
- Young children may not be left unattended in the library. (See [Unattended Children Policy](#))
- Abusive language, harassment, stalking or threatening behavior toward staff members or other members of the public will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to, initiating unwanted conversations, impeding access to the building or other actions another individual reasonably perceives to be hostile, threatening or offensive. Repeated acts of harassment or acts that may escalate into violent or illegal actions will be reported to the North Hampton Police.
- Lewd acts or sexual misconduct are not appropriate in the library. Serious acts and acts involving minors will be reported to the North Hampton Police.
- All persons entering the building are required to wear shoes or other footwear as well as other appropriate clothing.
- Patrons may not leave possessions unattended in the library, such as backpacks, briefcases, bags, or any other items. If left unattended, the items will be removed and the police called to remove items from the premises.
- Exhibiting offensive bodily hygiene which clearly disrupts and hinders the effective use of the library by others.

Persons exhibiting disruptive behavior will be required to leave the library after one warning from a library staff member and the library director will be informed of the occurrence. Persons who exhibit disruptive behavior on more than one occasion may be denied or restricted from any use of the library by the Board of Trustees.

Approved by the Board of Trustees, April, 2007 Amended September 2018