

Policy Name:	Patron Conduct Policy		
Section:	System	Effective Date:	July 5, 2001
Motion Number:	23-20	Reviewed Date:	May 25, 2023
Policy Number:	SYS-11	Next Review Date:	November 2025

Purpose

The Barrie Public Library is committed to providing inclusive, and welcoming spaces where the community comes together. This policy applies to visitors in all Library spaces: on Library property, in the community, on the phone, or electronically.

Visitors to the Library have the right to equal treatment without discrimination or harassment based on gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, race, colour, ethnic origin, creed, disability and all other grounds set out in the Ontario *Human Rights Code*.

Policy

While Visiting the Library

Everyone wants to enjoy the Library as much as you do. To ensure a positive experience for everyone, during your visit:

- Respect others and our spaces:
 - Be considerate of the tone and volume of your conversations
 - Tidy up after yourself and use furniture, equipment and spaces for their intended purposes
 - Strong scents can negatively impact others. Remember, we all share the air
- Dress appropriately for a public space, including wearing tops, bottoms, and footwear
- Take responsibility for those in your care
- Exit the Library promptly at closing or in the case of an evacuation
- Service Animals:
 - Only registered and well-behaved support or service animals are allowed in the Library
- Bags and Personal Belongings:
 - May be inspected by the Library or security (with consent), as a condition of continued use of the Library.
 - Keep all personal items with you. The Library is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal property

Unacceptable Behaviour

Includes any behaviour or activity that disrupts access to Library spaces or resources. These behaviours and activities include, but are not limited to:

- Abusive, insulting, lewd, harassing, and threatening behaviour toward patrons, staff members and volunteers
- Use and/or handling of alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, illicit drugs, drug or alcohol paraphernalia and containers
- Using the Library while under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Sleeping
- Smoking and vaping

- Theft and vandalism
- Posting notices, soliciting, panhandling and engaging in commercial activities without approval
- Printing and photocopying that does not comply with the *Canadian Copyright Act*
- Possession of weapons of any kind
- Photographing, filming or recording staff members and visitors on library premises without approval or consent
- Trespassing while under a Notice of Trespass

Suspension of Library Privileges

Violations of Library policies and procedures, if continued after direction from Library staff or security, may result in loss of Library privileges, including suspension from Library spaces and services. Suspended individuals will not have access to Library buildings, property, services and resources for the duration of the suspension.

Appeals to Notice of Trespass

The Library may consider an appeal, based on the offence and the individual's appeal. Appeals to a Notice of Trespass must be sent to Library Administration in writing.

Reinstatement of Library Privileges

Upon expiration of a Notice of Trespass, suspended individuals may be required to review the Patron Conduct Policy, with a Location Manager, before privileges are reinstated.