

Durham Public Library Behavior Policy

Use of the library may be denied or restricted by the Board of Trustees or the Director for due cause. Such cause may be failure to return books (RSA 202-A: 25), destruction of property (RSA 202-A: 24), disturbance of other patrons or other objectionable conduct (RSA 644:2 et al). The Director may ask a patron to leave the building, however all restrictions/denials longer than twenty-four (24) hours shall be approved by the Board of Trustees.

Patrons who continue to violate the behavior policy or pose a threat to the comfort and safety of other patrons and staff may have their library privileges suspended for a time period specified by the Board of Trustees on the recommendation of the Director. Patrons who are banned from the library will be notified in writing, whenever possible. Any individual subject to disciplinary action may appeal the decision of the Director to the Library Trustees. The Library Trustees require that all appeals be in writing. The individual may request a non-public meeting (RSA 91-A:3) in person with the Library Trustees.

The right to use the Durham Public Library is extended to every person. To guarantee this right, no patron shall engage in behaviors that are prohibited by, but not limited to, the following rules.

The following activities are not allowed on Library property:

- Smoking
- Damaging, defacing, destroying, or misusing Library property (including building, grounds, collection, and equipment)
- Any conduct that interferes with the use or enjoyment of the library by other patrons
- Loud, boisterous, abusive, or improper speech or behavior including but not limited to loud talking, raucous laughter, or offensive language
- Running, hitting, kicking, or roughhousing in the library
- Any illegal act
- Fighting or provoking a fight
- Being under the influence of or in the possession of alcohol or any controlled substance
- Obstructing any entrance, exit, or passageway
- Unattended children under the age of 10 (see Unattended Child Policy)
- Sleeping
- Soliciting, canvassing, campaigning
- Misusing computers or other equipment
- Bicycling, in-line skating, skateboarding, or using other such devices on Library walkways and steps
- Bringing pets into the building other than service animals providing assistance, unless permitted by the Director

Approved by the Durham Public Library Board of Trustees

Date: May 19, 2011 Amended: December 15, 2011