

SOLDOTNA PUBLIC LIBRARY PUBLIC CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

This policy is designed to ensure Library facilities serve their primary purposes, including the provision of a safe and orderly environment in which people may read, study, and use Library materials. The rules may not unreasonably or unfairly restrict access to libraries by any person or group.

BEHAVIORS THAT ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE AND/OR ARE PROHIBITED BY LAW:

1. Any behavior that is disruptive to Library use.
2. Damage, destruction, or theft of Library property, tampering with computer hardware and/or software, and other activities including (but not limited to) graffiti, vandalism, smoking,* use of tobacco products, or circumventing security systems.
3. Use of abusive, threatening, or obscene language.
 - a. **Abusive**- harsh or course insulting language
 - b. **Threatening**- words that express an intent to injure or physically abuse another person
 - c. **Obscene**- offensive, rude, derogatory, racist, sexist, or sexual
4. Harassing or threatening other patrons or Library staff verbally, physically, sexually, or electronically.
 - a. **Harass**- unsolicited annoying, alarming, or abusive conduct or words which are threatening.
 - b. **Threaten**- intentionally behaving in such a way as to cause a person of ordinary sensibilities fear of injury or harm.
5. Engaging in physical assault or abuse.
6. Interfering with the ability of patrons or staff to enter, exit, or move around the Library by obstructing pathways, entrances, or exits.
7. Solicitation. No solicitation will be permitted inside Library property facilities, except for the following:
 - a. Organizations or individuals may solicit the attendees of their meetings, but only within the confines of their reserved meeting room.
 - b. Organizations dedicated to the support of the Soldotna Public Library may solicit in Library facilities.
8. Distributing or posting materials that have not been previously approved by the Library staff (Please see 03.03 Library Public Posting Policy for more information).
9. Disruptive behavior such as running, jumping, loud conversations, or other loud noises.

* Including Tobacco, Electronic Cigarettes, Vaporizers, and Marijuana
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10. Playing sound without using headphones or earbuds. This includes using the speakerphone setting on a cell phone.
11. Eating or drinking near Library computers is not allowed. Eating and drinking is allowed everywhere else in the Library. Patrons who leave a mess behind may be asked not to eat or drink in the Library in the future.
12. Using restrooms as bathing or laundering facilities.
13. Strong odors and/or lack of personal hygiene that is disruptive to others.
14. Neglecting to wear appropriate clothing such as shirts or footwear.
15. Leaving personal belongings unattended. Please keep all personal items with you at all times.
16. Using skateboards, roller blades, rolling shoes, etc. in the Library; bringing bicycles or rolling storage containers larger than standard carry-on luggage into the facility.
17. Bringing animals or pets into the building or leaving them unattended on Library property, with the exception of service animals.
18. Using Library grounds for overnight parking and/or lodging. The Library grounds are closed between 12 AM-5 AM.
19. Parking or loitering in “employee only” designated parking areas.
20. Using the Library telephone for calls lasting longer than one minute.
21. Unauthorized use of Library resources including outdoor electrical and water supplies.

Unattended Children

Parents are responsible for the behavior and safety of their children using the Library. **Children under the age of 10 must be closely accompanied at all times by a responsible caregiver.** The police may be called when children are left unattended (see Unattended Children Policy).

The Children’s Area

This area is limited to persons under age 18 and their accompanying parent, caregiver, or teacher, and those using the Children’s collection.

The Teen Area

After 2:30 PM this area is limited to persons under the age of 20, their guardians, and those using the Teen collection.

The Library assumes no responsibility for the action or activity of any individual or group using the grounds of the Soldotna Public Library. When a patron behaves in a manner that violates this policy, Library staff may ask a patron to leave the Library facilities with or without warning, may contact law enforcement if necessary, and/or may suspend the patron from use of the Library facilities, in accordance with the Suspension of Library Privileges Policy. In some cases, civil penalties may result from improper actions.

Reviewed by Library Board: October 21, 2024

Approved by City Librarian: October 21, 2024

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