

APPENDIX XIII: Patron Behavior Policy

Behavior Policy

It is the policy of Cumberland County Public Library to maintain a quiet, pleasant environment conducive to serious study as well as casual use.

Library users and staff have a right to assume that visits to the library will be free from harassment, physical discomfort, danger, and psychological stress. The library considers the following to be unacceptable behavior:

- 1) Loud conversation, laughter or noise that is disturbing to others. This includes children's behavior. Parents are expected to monitor their child's behavior.
- 2) Leaving young children unattended. A responsible adult must supervise young children. See Cumberland County Public Library's Safe Child Policy for further information.
- 3) Using obscene or abusive language or behavior.
- 4) Using audible devices without headphones, or with headphones set at a volume that disturbs others. Using cell phones, pagers, and other communication devices in a manner that disturbs others. Cell phone and pager audible ringers must be turned off.
- 5) Blocking or interfering with the free movement of individuals.
- 6) Bringing animals or pets, except for service animals, into the library.
- 7) Smoking, or any other use of tobacco products, including smokeless and electronic products in the library or within 10 feet of the library entrance.
- 8) Bringing/consuming food or beverages in the library, with the exception of approved library events.
- 9) Showing explicit signs of affection.
- 10) Verbally or physically threatening or harassing other patrons, volunteers, or staff, including stalking, staring, lurking, offensive touching, and obscene acts.
- 11) Use of restrooms for meetings, loitering, bathing, solicitation, or any other misuse of restroom facilities. Taking library materials into restrooms.
- 12) Consuming, possessing, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- 13) Sleeping in the library.
- 14) Bringing large duffel bags or other large bags or containers into the library.
- 15) Use of library telephones by any person other than library personnel.
- 16) Distributing or posting printed materials not approved by the library.
- 17) Soliciting, panhandling, or selling of any kind on library property.
- 18) Theft of library materials, equipment or furnishings. Intentionally destroying, damaging, or defacing library materials, furnishings, equipment, or any part of the facility or fixtures.
- 19) Entering the library barefooted, without a shirt, with a shirt unbuttoned or unzipped, or being otherwise attired so as to be disruptive to the library environment.
- 20) Use of heavy perfumes, scented oils, or other body odors that may be at an offensive level.
- 21) Trespassing in staff and other nonpublic areas. Being in the library without permission of an authorized library employee before or after library operating hours.
- 22) Displaying other behaviors inappropriate in a public library setting.