

# PATTERSON LIBRARY

## PATRON CODE OF CONDUCT

The Patterson Library endeavors to provide an atmosphere conducive to the legitimate use of library materials, services, and premises. For this reason, any behavior that disrupts the orderly use of library premises or that affects the staff's ability to provide service is prohibited. Each person is requested to abide by the following on library premises:

- All children under the age of 10 must be accompanied at all times by a parent /caregiver, 18 years or older, while on library premises. If a child under the age of 5 is attending a program that does not require a parent/caregiver, that person must stay in the library and return to the program area at its ending time. See section 12.1 for detailed information.
- The library is not responsible for children of any age who are left unattended.
- Pets assisting disabled persons are the only animals permitted on library premises, unless approved by the director.
- Smoking, vaping or the possession, use, sale, or exchange of illegal substances is not permitted anywhere on library property.
- Loitering or sleeping is not permitted.
- Proper attire is required, including shoes.
- Conversations should be kept in low voices as a courtesy to others. If you would like to hold a meeting or study group in the library, please make prior arrangements with the director.
- Patrons may not leave bags and other personal items unattended. The library is not responsible for personal items that are lost, stolen, or damaged in or on library premises. Personal items left in the library may be subject to disposal.
- Behavior which can be expected to disturb library patrons or staff is not tolerated. Such behavior includes, but is not limited to:
  - ◊ Solicitation
  - ◊ Disorderly conduct
  - ◊ Loud or abusive language
  - ◊ Harassing or threatening verbal or physical behavior
  - ◊ The recording or photographing of other people in the library without their permission or the permission of the Library Director is considered a violation of privacy and not permitted.
  - ◊ Use of radios, cell phones, or other electronic equipment which is disruptive
  - ◊ Creating a physically offensive condition, including disturbing odors, infested clothing or personal effects
  - ◊ Using library restrooms or facilities improperly for purposes such as bathing, shaving, washing hair or to willfully clog the plumbing
- Food and beverage guidelines:
  - ◊ Consuming non-alcoholic beverages from closeable, spill-resistant containers is permitted.
  - ◊ Snack foods that will not disturb others and can be eaten without undue mess are permitted. Other food and/or drinks should be consumed in the café.
  - ◊ Food and any type of package deliveries are not accepted.
  - ◊ Users must clean up after themselves; patrons should contact the staff to report any spills.
  - ◊ In the event of damage from food or drink to library materials or equipment, costs may be assessed to the responsible person.
- Anyone who intentionally injures, defaces or destroys library property may be subject to prosecution.
- Only authorized staff is permitted to enter non-public areas of the library.
- Parking at the library is reserved for staff and patrons using library premises. Cars parked illegally may be towed.
- In the event of a pandemic or other public health emergency, patrons may be required to comply with temporary public safety measures deemed necessary by public health officials including but not limited to the wearing of masks, physical distancing measures, and more.

Violations can result in loss of library privileges, including borrowing privileges and access to the library building and premises. Library staff is authorized to suspend some or all library privileges for any violations of these rules. Appeals may be made to the library director, whose decision is final.