

CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

The Westport Library Board of Trustees has adopted the following Code of Conduct to ensure that all Library patrons may enjoy the Library facilities and services in a safe and secure environment. If a patron engages in any of the behaviors prohibited below and refuses to stop doing so once warned, the patron will be asked to leave the Library. Repeated failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may lead to a ban from the Library or prosecution. Persons refusing to leave the Library facilities after being evicted, or entering the Library after being banned, may be the subject of a police complaint and charged with trespassing. This Code of Conduct will be enforced without discrimination and applies equally to all patrons, including children.

Library patrons will treat the Library staff and other patrons with respect at all times.

Library patrons will not engage in any activities that violate this general rule, including, but not limited to:

- Threatening or engaging in physical harm to others;
- Verbally harassing others;
- Using obscene or abusive language or gestures;
- Damaging, destroying, defacing, stealing or improperly using any materials, equipment, furniture or other property belonging to the Library or to Library patrons or staff;
- Carrying a weapon without a permit;
- Smoking anything, including e-cigarettes, or using matches or lighters, within the Library or within 12 feet of the Library entrances;
- Consuming alcohol outside of a permitted event or displaying signs of intoxication;
- Using controlled substances of any kind, or abusing otherwise permissible drugs;
- Bringing non-service animals into the Library facilities;
- Speaking loudly, whether it be to another person in the Library or on a cell phone;
- Creating noise disturbances in other ways, such as from food packaging or electronic devices (i.e., rings, alerts, music, etc.);
- Causing strong aromas, such as those resulting from hot meals or not using proper hygiene;
- Consuming food and beverages in the Roz and Bud Siegel Family Children's Library, Maker Space, and Media Studios;
- Disposing of trash inappropriately;
- Habitually sleeping;
- Resting feet on the furniture, or damaging it in any other way;

- Not wearing shirts or other tops and shoes, which must be worn at all times while in the Library.
- Soliciting of any kind, including, selling services or goods, recruiting staff, surveying public opinion, and requesting donations;
- Taking photos, video recordings or audio recordings without the permission of the subject;
- Asking staff to monitor personal belongings or other persons in your care;
- Participating in lewd or sexual activity;
- Leaving children under the age of 12 unattended by a parent, guardian or responsible caregiver;
- Viewing or reproducing pornography in any medium; or
- Failing to follow additional Library policies as appropriate, such as the Unattended Child Policy, the Media Studio Policy, the Meeting Room Policy, and the Event Space Policy.