

Library Use Policy

The Westport Library serves the residents of the Town of Westport, Connecticut, the local community, the community-at-large and the general public.¹

The Library is committed to empowering the individual and strengthening the community through dynamic interaction and the lively exchange of ideas.² Consistent with its mission, the Library is dedicated to open exchange of knowledge and information and to providing access to Library facilities, collections, programming and other services on an equitable basis, without regard to origin, age, background or views.³ Within its selection guidelines, the Library endeavors to provide materials that are representative of a diversity of genres, topics, formats sources and viewpoints, for the benefit, interest and information of all Library patrons.

Library operations are governed by Library policy and procedures, as amended from time to time.⁴ The Library has adopted and is guided by the American Library Association (ALA) Code of Ethics,⁵ the ALA Library Bill of Rights⁶ and the ALA Freedom to Read Statement.⁷

Use of the Library, including use of all Library facilities, collections, programming and other Library services and resources, is subject to applicable law and Library policy and procedures. Library patrons are expected to know and comply with applicable Library policy and procedures.⁸ Library patrons are expected to respect the rights of all patrons to safe and equitable enjoyment of the Library.

Adapted by the Westport Library Board of Trustees on June 21, 2023

¹ Bylaws § 1.2 ([BY-LAWS \(westportlibrary.org\)](https://westportlibrary.org/BY-LAWS))

² Mission ([About | The Westport Library](https://westportlibrary.org/About))

³ ALA Library Bill of Rights ([Library Bill of Rights | Advocacy, Legislation & Issues \(ala.org\)](https://www.ala.org/advocacy-legislation/issues/library-bill-of-rights))

⁴ Bylaws § 2.5(f) ([BY-LAWS \(westportlibrary.org\)](https://westportlibrary.org/BY-LAWS)); Library Policies ([Policies | The Westport Library](https://westportlibrary.org/Policies))

⁵ ALA Code of Ethics ([Professional Ethics | Tools, Publications & Resources \(ala.org\)](https://www.ala.org/advocacy-legislation/issues/professional-ethics))

⁶ ALA Library Bill of Rights ([Library Bill of Rights | Advocacy, Legislation & Issues \(ala.org\)](https://www.ala.org/advocacy-legislation/issues/library-bill-of-rights))

⁷ Freedom to Read Statement ([The Freedom to Read Statement | Advocacy, Legislation & Issues \(ala.org\)](https://www.ala.org/advocacy-legislation/issues/freedom-to-read-statement))

⁸ Code of Conduct & Public Use Policies ([Policies | The Westport Library](https://westportlibrary.org/Policies))([Code-of-Conduct-7.19.19.pdf \(westportlibrary.org\)](https://westportlibrary.org/Code-of-Conduct-7.19.19.pdf))