

Redwood City Public Library

Library Use Policy

Mission Statement:

The Redwood City Public Library is the place that people turn to for the discovery of ideas, the joy of reading, and to connect with the community.

In order to promote the pleasurable use of the library and to ensure customers' rights as much as possible, the following behaviors and/or attributes are **not** allowed in the Redwood City Public Libraries.

- Stealing, damaging, altering, or inappropriate use of library materials and/or property, including computer hardware and software, copiers and other equipment.
- Running, pushing, shoving, throwing things, fighting or challenging to fight others.
- Creating disruptive noises such as loud talking, using abusive or obscene language, screaming, or banging on tables or computer equipment.
- Verbally or physically threatening or harassing other library customers, volunteers, or staff. Examples include but are not limited to: stalking, staring, lurking, offensive touching, and obscene acts such as sex acts and indecent exposure.
- Being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs and/or selling, using, or possessing alcohol/illegal drugs.
- Using restrooms for bathing, shampooing, laundering or loitering.
- Smoking, chewing, or other use of tobacco.
- Entering the library barefooted, without a shirt, or being otherwise attired so as to be disruptive to the library environment.
- Offensive body odor and/or lack of personal hygiene.
- Riding skateboards, roller-skates, shoes with wheels, scooters, bicycles, carts, etc. in the library.
- Bringing large objects such as shopping carts, luggage, bicycles, etc. into the library (Wheelchairs, walkers, and infant strollers are allowed only when used as a conveyance for a person.)
- Leaving unattended packages or luggage.
- Bringing pets or animals-other than service animals necessary for disabilities into the library.

- Leaving children unsupervised and/or unattended.
- Sleeping or lying on the floor or furniture.
- People, animals or property must not block aisles, doorways, stairways, elevators or ramps. Personal property must be within sight of the owner.
- The library is a “gang free” facility. Gang related activities are not allowed. These include, but are not limited to: the wearing of commonly-recognized items of gang colors, insignias, monikers, bandanas and jewelry with gang significance, or use of hand signals signifying gang membership.
- Disobeying the direction of a library staff member.
- Refusing library staff requests to search purses, bags, parcels, briefcases, and other packages.*

*“State law permits library staff to search purses, bags, parcels, briefcases and other packages. To prevent the theft of books and library materials, state law authorizes the detention for a reasonable period of any person using these facilities who is suspected of committing “library theft” (California Penal Code section 490.5)”

Persons who violate these guidelines may receive a warning from the Library staff and /or the opportunity to cease the violation or may be told to leave the library. Illegal activity, as well as any willful or repeated violations of these guidelines or other library regulations (e.g. Internet Use Guidelines), may result in removal from the facility and/or suspension of library privileges. In addition, where authorized by Federal, State or local law, violations of these guidelines may also result in arrest.

*Library Board of Trustees
Redwood City Public Library
Adopted: June 11, 2007*