

LIBRARY CONDUCT POLICY

Purpose:

The Board of Trustees has established this policy to provide guidelines so all library users and employees should be free of any threat of harm, invasion of property or gross indignity.

Objectionable Behavior:

No person shall engage in any conduct that disturbs or interferes with the legitimate usage of the library. This conduct includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Consume or possess alcoholic beverages, or use or possess controlled substances in the library or be under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances in a manner that causes public disturbance.
- Campaign, petition, interview or survey patrons or staff in a manner that is disruptive to library activities.
- Possess any firearm, knife, any device which could be used as a weapon or other weapon prohibited by City Ordinance or State Statutes.
- Willfully annoy, harass, or threaten another person.
- Willfully expose patrons and staff to offensive images or loud, obscene or abusive language.
- Commit lewd acts.
- Disrupt patrons with loud behavior.
- Run, jump or generally behave in a manner that could endanger themselves and other patrons or staff.
- Deface or destroy library property.
- Smoke in the library.
- Use skates, skate shoes or skateboards in the library.
- Solicit funds or panhandle.
- Use cell phone cameras or other unauthorized cameras in the library.
- Interfere with the library's right to maintain a clean, pleasant and safe facility.
- Participate in or facilitate gambling on library premises.
- Interfere with others' use of the library through poor bodily hygiene that is so offensive as to constitute a nuisance.
- Interfere with another person's passage within the Library.

Disciplinary Action:

Enforcement of these rules for persons may take the form of any of the following actions, depending on the severity of the misconduct that will be determined by the staff on duty at the time. These disciplinary procedures are merely guidelines. They are not listed in any particular order and there is no requirement that any particular disciplinary action precede any other action. The library may choose to implement any of the procedures listed, including immediate banishment from the premises, at any time, depending on the seriousness of the violation.

1. In the case of a minor disruption, the patron receives two warnings. At the third offense, the patron must leave the library for the rest of the day.
2. In the case of any misconduct that, in the judgment of a staff member, is extreme, the offender may receive only one warning, be ordered to leave the building immediately, or the police may be called as appropriate.
3. If patron is uncooperative or threatening in any way the police will be called.
4. Patrons causing disruptions on repeated visits will be warned by the director or designee that they will not be allowed to enter the library if the behavior continues.
5. Patrons, who engage in repeated disruptive behaviors that violate City Code or State Statues, may be permanently banned from the library premises by the director.
6. A form detailing the disciplinary action will be provided to the patron.
7. Patron wishing to appeal disciplinary action must make a written request to the Board of Trustees within two business days of occurrence.

Reviewed and Approved by the Mt. Pleasant Public Library Board of Trustees
March 10, 2009