

Patron Behavior Policy

West Union Community Library invites you to enjoy your library and to come often. The library is committed to providing a pleasant, secure, and supportive environment for all of its patrons and staff. To achieve this goal, the following Standards of Behavior have been established.

Any activity or behavior which interferes with the rights of other patrons to use the library or the library grounds, which could result in injury to oneself or others, or which could cause damage to the building, materials, or equipment is considered disruptive and unacceptable.

Disruptive behavior may include, but not be limited to:

- Illegal activity
- Smoking and/or chewing tobacco and/or vaping
- Eating and/or drinking
- Sleeping
- Soliciting
- Panhandling
- Defacing library property
- Running
- Throwing objects
- Making loud noises
- Paying unwelcome attention to library staff or patrons
- Loitering
- Indecent exposure
- Persistent staring
- Receiving and/or making telephone calls on a cell phone
- Transmitting overpowering, offensive, and/or obnoxious odors

In the interest of safety, any behavior that is dangerous to a person or property is not permitted. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Shoes and shirt are required
- Swinging or standing on furniture or structures or placing small children on tables or counters.
- Using public rest rooms for bathing and/or laundry
- Only service animals are permitted in the library. As defined by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), a service animal is defined as: **“A service animal means any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.** Tasks performed can include, among other things, pulling a wheelchair, retrieving dropped items,

- alerting a person to a sound, reminding a person to take medication, or pressing an elevator button.”
- Following the ADA guidance, the following are NOT considered service animals and therefore are NOT allowed in the library: emotional support animals, comfort animals, and therapy animals. Further explanation can be found in the *Service Animals and Emotional Support Animals Guidebook, 2014*, available for review at the Library Desk.

For additional Patron Behavior Expectations, please refer to these additional library policies:

- Unattended Children Policy
- Sex Offender Policy
- Meeting Room Policy

FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THIS POLICY COULD RESULT IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING ACTION:

- REQUEST TO LEAVE THE LIBRARY
- LOSS OF LIBRARY PRIVILEGES
- NOTIFICATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT