

RULES OF PUBLIC BEHAVIOR

Guilderland Public Library strives to ensure a safe and appropriate environment for the conduct of library business by both library patrons and staff. Toward that end, Guilderland Public Library has established rules of appropriate behavior for Library use.

The Library Board may exclude from the use of the Library any and all persons who shall willfully violate such reasonable rules and regulations as the Library Board may adopt. Such exclusion from this Library shall occur on the orders of the Director or Director's designee. In this document, "withholding of Library privileges" is defined as meaning that an individual may not use the Library or enter upon Library property.

The Guilderland Public Library Board hereby adopts the following Rules of Behavior, and directs the Library Director to institute the necessary proceedings of enforcement.

PERSONS WHO VIOLATE THE FOLLOWING RULES ARE SUBJECT TO THE WITHHOLDING OF LIBRARY PRIVILEGES AS FOLLOWS:

FIRST OFFENSE: LIBRARY PRIVILEGES MAY BE REVOKED FOR UP TO SIX MONTHS.

SECOND OFFENSE: LIBRARY PRIVILEGES MAY BE REVOKED FOR UP TO ONE YEAR.

ANY FURTHER OFFENSES WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE DIRECTOR.

I. The Library:

1. Prohibits the consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages on Library property.
2. Prohibits the consumption or use of illegal substances on Library premises.
3. Prohibits smoking on Library property.
4. Bans all weapons from Library premises, including lawfully registered concealed weapons, to the fullest extent permitted by law.
5. Prohibits damage or theft of Library or Patron property.
6. Requires patrons to wear shirts, pants/skirts and shoes, or other footwear, at all times in the Library for hygiene and safety purposes.
7. Prohibits foods in the Library except in designated areas. Beverages in covered containers are permissible.

8. Prohibits loitering or sleeping on Library property.
9. Prohibits the use of roller skates, roller blades, skate shoes or skateboards on Library property.
10. Prohibits patrons from bringing bicycles into the Library buildings, securing bicycles at any entrance or exit, or parking bicycles in such a manner that they may obstruct patrons entering or exiting the Library.
11. Prohibits all petitioning, campaigning, electioneering, interviewing, survey-taking, soliciting, sales, or other disruptive speech or conduct.
12. Prohibits board games, gambling, card playing, or other games of chance or skill on Library property, except patrons may play board games when such games are provided by the Library.
13. Bans conversation and other sounds in louder volume than the general noise level of the area.
14. Bans animals from the Library and entrance/exit areas except service animals according to the ADA.
15. Prohibits obscene, lewd, abusive, threatening or sexually harassing language or behavior..
16. Prohibits soliciting or panhandling.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, any person may, without prior notice or warning, be immediately expelled from the Library if his or her presence or conduct on the premises poses an immediate and imminent danger to any person or property.

Behavior prohibited by Federal, State or Local Law, is also prohibited on the premises of the Guilderland Public Library.

Appeal Process

Persons whose library privileges are withheld for more than 30 days pursuant to the above rules may appeal to the Library Board of Trustees by appearing in person during the next special or regularly scheduled Board meeting. This appearance must be at the next Board meeting following receipt of the Library's mailing of notice of withholding of privileges. Notwithstanding the revocation of privileges, any such person will be allowed to enter the Library for the limited purpose of attending the Board meeting at which the Board will hear their appeal. The Board shall hear the appeal during Executive Session, and respond in writing within 10 days.

Approved January 17, 2019
Revised December 14, 2023