



Rules of Behavior for Patrons

The Natchitoches Parish Library is a public agency supported by the taxes of the citizens of the parish and they have the right to expect an atmosphere conducive to study, reading, and the legitimate use of library materials and services. To foster such an environment, patrons shall act in a considerate and appropriate manner.

“If a patron’s behavior is such that others are unable to enjoy the library, they may be asked to leave. If they refuse, parents or police may be notified.”

(Statement adopted by the Natchitoches Parish Library Board of Control.)

1. Use of tobacco products or electronic smoking devices (smoking, vaping, chewing tobacco, snuff) is not permitted in the library or within 25 feet of library entrances.
2. Eating and drinking are not permitted in the library facilities unless part of a planned program or meeting room use.
3. No loud talking, fighting, throwing of objects, boisterous behavior, obscene language. One warning then patron shall be asked to leave.
4. No solicitation, begging, panhandling, gambling, or loitering.
5. Pets cannot be accommodated, except service dogs *as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act*.
6. Shirts and shoes are required in all library facilities.
7. Sit properly in chairs with feet on the floor, one person per chair; no feet on tables.
8. Children 8 and younger must be accompanied by and adequately supervised by a responsible person – an adult or mature adolescent (16 years of age or older). Adult supervision is recommended for all children.
9. Persons with cell phones should turn the ringer to vibrate or off and be considerate of others by keeping their conversations short and their voice lowered.
10. Physical, verbal, or sexual harassment of library patrons or staff will not be tolerated.
11. Persons appearing to be intoxicated or on drugs shall be required to leave.
12. Indecent exposure and voyeurism (peeping) shall be reported to the police.
13. Bathing, shaving, and washing clothes are not permitted in library restrooms.
14. Sleeping is not permitted in any library facilities.
15. Running, exercising, and lying on the floor are not permitted unless part of a planned program.
16. Earphones must be used when listening to music on a personal device (cell phone, CD player); volume level must not disturb other patrons or staff.
17. If children are left unattended at closing time, law enforcement will be contacted immediately.
18. Illegal, unauthorized, unethical, or obscene use or violations of copyright is not allowed on library computers. Manipulation of internal hardware and/or software is prohibited.

Persons who do not comply with the rules of the library system shall not be allowed to remain in the library building or on the library grounds.