

Franklin-Springboro Public Library · Patron Behavior Policy

Approved July 15, 2021, by the Library Board of Trustees

The mission of the Franklin-Springboro Public Library is to meet the educational, informational, intellectual, and recreational needs of the people in the service community: Franklin, Franklin Township, Carlisle, Springboro, and Clearcreek Township. In order to fulfill the library's mission, patrons are asked to follow these rules of conduct so all library users can feel welcome and safe on library property (both inside and outside). Any misconduct that hinders the use of the library or library materials is prohibited.

Conduct towards library property

- The following are not permitted on library property: theft; littering; vandalism; damage of library materials, equipment, or property; and use of skateboards, scooters, skates, or bicycles.
- Access to entry ways should never be obstructed.
- The library and library staff do not assume responsibility for personal items.
- Use of tobacco or electronic cigarettes/cigars in the library or smoking within 20 feet of any entrance to the library building is not permitted.

Conduct towards staff and other patrons

- Use of personal electronic equipment that interferes with normal library business or at a volume that disturbs others is not permitted.
- Disorderly conduct or disruptive behavior that interferes with the normal operation of the library or that disturbs patrons or staff is not permitted (i.e. – running, throwing objects, abusive or threatening language, fighting and sleeping).
- Loitering of any kind is not permitted.
- Panhandling or selling items, materials, or services is prohibited on library property, except for approved sales in conjunction with legitimate library activities.
- Soliciting petition signatures or distributing materials may take place only on the outside sidewalks along the street. Any such activities shall not interfere with access of patrons to the library, library entrances, or library services. Petitioners or distributors of materials are not permitted to block patron access to the library or harass patrons in an effort to obtain signatures or distribute materials.
- Participating and soliciting in any violent or sexual activity is not permitted.

Conduct relating to health and hygiene

- Patrons shall be fully clothed, including shirt and shoes, at all times.
- Presents a public health risk due to visible presence of insects or pests.
- Service animals are permitted inside the library. Service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work or the individual's disability prevents these devices. In that case, the individual must maintain control of the animal.
- Bathing, shaving, or washing clothes is not permitted.

Conduct that violates local, state and federal statutes

- Being under the influence, possessing, consuming, distributing, or selling of alcohol or illegal substances is not permitted.
- Violation of any local ordinance or state or federal statute is not permitted.

Conduct relating to children

- The library does not accept or assume responsibility for unattended children. While in the library young children must be supervised by an adult. Police may be notified of unattended children.
- Attempt to solicit interaction with any minor by unrelated adults is not permitted.

Violations of any local ordinances, Ohio Revised Codes, or federal statutes may be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency. Failure to adhere to this policy could result in one or more of the following actions: request to leave the library (this includes the property), loss of library privileges, and/or prosecution or arrest.