



Grand Rapids Public Library Board of Library Commissioners Policy Manual

Policy 60-1 Patron Rules and Responsibilities

The Grand Rapids Public Library welcomes everyone to use the library and its resources. In order to maintain a clean, safe, and comfortable environment for our patrons and staff, we ask that everyone in library buildings or property adhere to the following rules and responsibilities:

- Obey all local, state and federal laws.
- Follow library policies and procedures about the use of library materials, services and computers.
- All bags and other containers must fit completely under a library chair.
- Wheeled vehicles, unless needed by persons with disabilities or to transport children, are not allowed in library buildings.
- No solicitation or panhandling.
- Do not bother or willfully annoy other people.
- Refrain from loud or rowdy behavior, or creating or participating in a disturbance such as a physical or verbal fight or altercation.
- Do not use profane, obscene, or injurious language.
- Do not display obscene materials or images.
- Parents and other adults accompanying minors are responsible for ensuring that the minors follow the library's policies and procedures. The library should not be used in place of appropriate child care.
- Keep food and beverages in designated areas. All beverages must be covered.
- Smoking, vaping, or the use, or display of related products is not allowed.
- No loitering. Patrons may not remain on library property after being told to leave by a staff member.
- No trespassing. This includes being in library buildings when they are not open to the public or going into non-public areas.
- Be respectful of library property and materials. Do not damage, vandalize, tamper with or improperly remove library property or property that does not belong to you.
- No public intoxication. The use or possession of alcoholic beverages is not allowed, except with the approval of the library director.
- Proper attire, including, but not limited to, shirt and shoes, is required.
- Patrons with inadequate personal hygiene that interferes with the use of the library by others will be asked to leave.
- No sleeping in the library.

Any person who does not adhere to these rules and responsibilities may be asked to leave library property, be denied library privileges, or be banned from the library. Violation of local, state, or federal laws may result in criminal prosecution.

Cross Reference: Rescinded Policy 12.7
Adopted: November 20, 2012
Amended: November 26, 2019



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Policy 60-2 Internet Access

No user will be allowed to display, exhibit or disseminate obscene or sexually explicit matter to minors as prohibited by Michigan law. Specifically, the library complies with MCL 379.601-606 entitled "The Library Privacy Act" that does not allow persons under 18 years of age to view "obscene or sexually explicit matter that is harmful to minors" and with MCL 722.671-679 entitled "Disseminating, Exhibiting, or Displaying Sexually Explicit Matter to Minors". The Library does not have private Internet viewing facilities. All computers with access to the Internet are available to minors and open to view by minors.

The Library provides classes to teach children and their parents how to use and safely navigate the Internet. Although the library will monitor behavior, it is ultimately the parent's or guardian's responsibility to determine what library resources are appropriate for their minor children.

The Internet is a vast network of computer networks linking millions of computers around the world. The Internet is a dynamic environment with the content and format of information accessed from these networks constantly changing. Its resources provide unprecedented opportunities to expand the scope of information available to users. However, there is no regulation of its content.

The Grand Rapids Public Library does not control the availability of information links that often change rapidly and unpredictably. Not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, complete, or current information. Users need to be good information consumers, questioning the validity of the information.

The Collection Management Policy of the Grand Rapids Public Library supports access to materials on all subjects that serve the needs or interests of its users regardless of the user's age. This pertains to the Internet no less than it does to the more traditional sources of information in libraries. The Internet permits users access to information that some may deem inappropriate, but the Grand Rapids Public Library does not deny or limit access to information except as required by law.

Also, the Grand Rapids Public Library assumes no responsibility for any damages, direct or indirect, arising from use of its WWW Server or from its connections to other Internet services through our service provider.

*Cross Reference: Rescinded Policy 95-3
Adopted: November 20, 2012*