

Mid-Mississippi Regional Library System Library Rules of Customer Conduct

Updated August 2018



The Mid-Mississippi Regional Library System Board of Trustees encourages all community members to take full advantage of the wide range of library services offered at each local library branch. However, certain behaviors can result in the temporary or permanent loss of library privileges, especially when such behavior threatens library staff or other library users.

Behavior that can result in the loss of library borrowing privileges:

- Repeated failure to return materials on time.
- Removing library materials from the building without properly checking them out.
- Theft or malicious damage of library materials

Behavior that can result in a temporary expulsion from library property:

- Bathing, dressing, personal grooming or sleeping on library property
- Failure to supervise minor children on library property
- Running, jumping, playing, riding bikes, roller blades, skates or skateboards on library property
- Placing feet on tables or chairs
- Loitering in the entrances or hallways of the library
- Blocking the entrances, hallways or pathways of the library
- *Bringing a live animal (other than a legitimate, trained service animal) inside the library building except when part of a library sponsored program
- **Use of any tobacco product** inside a library building or within 25 feet of the library entrance doors
- Consuming alcoholic beverages inside the library (except at sanctioned library events)
- Accessing pornographic or sexually explicit materials on library property
- There should be no audible conversations on cell phones inside the library (texting is allowed as long as send and receive tones are silent)
- Polling, photographing, or filming on library premises without prior permission from the System Director
- There should be no audible ring-tones of cell phones inside the library
- Playing audible music or engaging in loud conversation within the library
- Consuming food or beverages while in the library
- Dressing inappropriately without shoes, shirt or other proper attire, **or wearing any clothing bearing suggestive, abusive, vulgar, offensive, or provocative illustrations, logos, slogans or words.**
- Bodily hygiene that is offensive so as to constitute a nuisance to other persons
- Disturbing other library customers
- Use of library staff computers and equipment
- Accessing areas within the library restricted to library staff

Behavior that can result in a suspension or permanent loss of library privileges:

- Making sexually-suggestive or vulgar comments to library staff or customers
- Distributing or using illegal or illicit drugs on library property
- Deliberately introducing a worm or virus onto a library computer
- Excessive displays of affection including any sexual conduct or physical contact deemed inappropriate for a public place.
- Stealing personal property of library staff or customers
- Using profanity or any other form of rude, abusive or threatening language
- Uttering hate speech or racial epithets on library property
- Vandalizing or maliciously damaging library equipment or property
- Exhibiting emotionally disturbed or psychotic behavior
- Stalking or harassing library customers or employees
- Behaving in a belligerent, aggressive or physically threatening manner
- Possessing a gun, knife or any other kind of weapon on library property
- Gambling
- Soliciting
- Circulating petitions or distribute election campaign literature

Please note: All library staff members are authorized to contact local law enforcement officials if they believe that an individual's actions are a threat to public safety. Any violation of local, state or federal laws on library property will be promptly reported to the appropriate local law enforcement officials.

*See MMRLS Animals in the Library Policy