



Patron Relations

The Milton-Freewater Public Library is supported by the taxes of the people of Milton-Freewater who expect our facilities to be clean, comfortable, and safe for selecting materials, reading, researching, studying, writing, and attending Library or community sponsored programs and meetings. To this end, the Library is responsible for establishing rules of conduct to protect the rights and safety of Library patrons, volunteers, and staff, and for preserving and protecting the Library's materials, equipment, facilities, and grounds.

Enforcement of these rules will be conducted in a fair and reasonable manner. Library staff will intervene to stop prohibited activities and behaviors. Failure to comply with the Library's established rules, regulations, and policies could result in removal from the premises and expulsion from the Library from a period of one day to one year, or arrest and prosecution. Violations could also result in restriction and/or termination of Library privileges, including the use of Library computers and other equipment. Expulsion for more than one day may be appealed in writing to the Library Director.

Patron Rules of Conduct

Patrons may not engage in any activity in violation of Federal, State, local or any other applicable law, or Library policy.

If a patrons behavior is disruptive or interferes with library operations, but does not require police intervention immediately library employees will follow these steps:

- Patron will be informed that their behavior is inappropriate and if it does not stop, they will be asked to leave.
- If the behavior continues they will be asked to leave for the day.
- If the patron refuses to leave or becomes threatening library staff will call the police.
- Library staff will file an incident report with the Library Director.
- If patrons are minors, their guardians may be contacted to discuss their behavior at the library.
- If a Library patron's disruptive behavior is habitual, or serious in nature the Library Director is authorized to ban the patron from the library for any length of time deemed appropriate. Patrons who violate this ban will be considered trespassing and law enforcement may be contacted to remove the patron.

Disruptive Behavior

- Patrons may not verbally or physically threaten or harass other patrons, volunteers, or staff, including stalking, staring, lurking, offensive touching, and obscene acts such as sex acts and indecent exposure.
- Patrons shall not fight, challenge to fight, run, push, shove, or throw things



- Trespassing in nonpublic areas is not allowed, and patrons may not be in the library without a staff member present.
- Patrons may not use telephones, workstations, or other resources reserved for use of library staff.
- Creating disruptive noises such as screaming, or banging on computer keyboards is not allowed.
- Patrons may not use audible devices without headphones or with headphones set at a volume that disturbs others, nor may patrons use cell phone, and other communication devices in a manner that disturbs others.
- Patrons are encouraged not to enter the building with offensive body odor or poor personal hygiene, or being otherwise attired so as to be disruptive to the library environment.

Vandalism and Damage to Library Property

Any behavior that damages Library equipment, facilities, or collections is prohibited. Patrons may not damage or deface Library equipment, facilities, or collections; and they may not deliberately misuse Library equipment, facilities, or collections.

Food and Drink

Consuming food or beverages in areas of the library with computers or while at a computer is not allowed.

Possession of weapons

Patrons may not carry weapons of any type (except for registered concealed carry handguns and by law enforcement officers).

Smoking and use of tobacco products

Smoking, chewing, and other tobacco use is not allowed in Library facilities or on Library grounds.

Alcohol and illegal drugs

Patrons may not be under the influence of alcohol/illegal drugs and selling, using, or possessing alcohol/illegal drugs is also prohibited.