

## **Arthur Public Library's Patron Code of Conduct**

The board and staff of the Arthur Public Library District are committed to providing all library users with a safe and pleasant environment. The Board of Trustees have established the following Code of Conduct to protect the rights and safety of all library users and staff and to protect library materials, equipment, and property. Policies apply to all public spaces in the library including meeting rooms and grounds.

### **Rules of Conduct for library users**

1. Any behavior that is disruptive, hinders the use of the library, or endangers public safety is prohibited on library property. This includes, but is not limited to, loud or boisterous behavior, verbal or physical harassment, drunkenness, running, fighting, profanity, PDA, or refusing to follow library staff directives.
2. Keep clear of library entrances, do not congregate near doorways or park bikes in front of doorways.
3. Animals shall not be left unattended on library property and are not permitted in the library, except for service animals or with permission from the library director.
4. Shirts must be worn, and clothing with objectionable language may not be worn on library premises. Library users with excessive body odors or perfume/cologne may be asked to leave the premise.
5. Eating and drinking is limited to the reader's lounge, meeting room, or lobby.
6. Library users' are responsible for personal belongings and cleaning up after themselves.
7. The violation of federal, state, or local laws is not permitted on library property. Theft or vandalism of library material or property are criminal offenses that may be prosecuted.

Persons who refuse to comply with the Rules of Conduct may lose their privilege to use the library. The library reserves the right to remove any person whose behavior is disruptive, inappropriate for a library environment, or interferes with the use of the library for others.

### **The library reserves the right to:**

1. Limit group size based on available space and noise level of the group.
2. Inspect any bags or backpacks.
3. Ask you to discontinue a behavior.
4. Ask you to leave the library property for the day
5. Ban you from the property for a period of time ranging from one week to one year, depending of the severity or continuation of the issue.
6. Call the police in cases of illegal activities

The Public Library Act provides the Board of Library Trustees and the general power to carry out the spirit and intent of the Act of establishing and maintaining the Library and providing library services, and the specific power to exclude from the library and person who willfully violates a policy or regulation prescribed by the board." 75 ILCS 16/30-55.55

## **Unattended Children**

Parents are responsible for the behavior of their children while visiting the library and may not leave children under the age of 8 at the library without a caregiver of at least 14 years of age. Arthur Public Library staff is committed to helping children with library related activities; however, library staff cannot serve as baby-sitters, teachers, or disciplinarians. Violations of this policy are grounds for suspension of library privileges. Whenever advisable, the library will notify the parent of incidents involving an unattended child.

Library staff is authorized to call the police when the safety of an unattended child is in question or the parent or responsible caregiver cannot be located, or if the library is closing.

Children over 8 may use the library unattended but are subject to all library rules and policies concerning behavior, conduct, and demeanor. The staff may ask your child to leave the library property for the day or ban them for a period of time.

Parents are responsible for making arrangements with their child on what they should do if they need to leave the library for any reason.