

Patron Code of Conduct

Rules for Patron Behavior:

The Groton Public Library encourages people of all ages to visit the library. The library staff and those using the library and its resources have the right to expect a safe and comfortable environment. At the discretion of staff, people demonstrating disruptive or inappropriate behavior may be required to immediately leave. Refusal to leave the premises will result in the staff member calling 911. Inappropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Loud talking
- Running
- Eating or drinking in the computer area
- Deliberately annoying other patrons and/or staff
- Misuse of library property or services
- Abusive language or behavior
- Harassment or lewd behavior

All serious offenses will be reported to the director/manager. Any illegal acts will be reported to the police.

Use of cell phones for conversations inside the library is not allowed if it is disruptive. Use of personal computers and audio equipment is permitted only if the noise level is low.

Library Safe Child Policy – The staff of the Groton Public Library is committed to helping children and their families utilize Library resources most effectively. It is not the responsibility of Library staff, however, to provide short-term or long-term child care, or to be responsible for unattended children. Children who have not been picked up at closing will be left in the care of Law Enforcement.

Suspension of Computer Privileges:

Infractions of the Rules for **Computer Use** at the Groton Public Library will be treated as follows:

- 1st infraction: loss of computer privileges for 30 days
- 2nd infraction: loss of computer privileges for 60 days
- 3rd infraction: permanent loss of computer privileges

Deliberate or illegal actions may result in a lifetime ban on the use of library computer systems and legal action.

Suspension of Library Privileges and Banishment from Premises:

Infractions of the **Patron Code of Conduct** will be treated as follows:

- 1st infraction: loss of library privileges & banishment for a minimum of 30 days*
- 2nd infraction: loss of library privileges & banishment for a minimum of 60 days*
- 3rd infraction: permanent loss of library privileges & banishment from Library & premises

Deliberate or illegal actions may result in legal action and a lifetime ban from the Library & Premises.

***Depending upon the severity of infraction, the Library Executive and Board of Trustees may impose longer or permanent suspension and banishment.**

Updated 12/9/2014

Considered for Revisions 7/12/2016

Revised 12/12/2017

Groton Public Library Safe Child Policy

The Groton Public Library is dedicated to providing a warm, welcoming, enjoyable, and safe environment for people of all ages. We offer many programs and services to encourage children and their families in developing a love of books, reading, and learning. Above all, however, our focus must be on ensuring the fundamental safety and well-being of children at the Library.

Parents, guardians, and caregivers are responsible for the behavior of their children while they are in the Library and on Library property. Children, as with all Library patrons, must comply with the [Library Patron Code of Conduct](#).

The staff of the Groton Public Library is committed to helping children and their families utilize Library resources most effectively. It is not the responsibility of Library staff, however, to provide short-term or long-term child care, or to be responsible for unattended children.

Unattended children are children of any age who are unaccompanied by a parent, guardian, and/or responsible caregiver. Children unable or unwilling to care for themselves may not be left alone in the Library and must have adequate supervision while they are in the Library. The Library is likewise not responsible for children who leave Library property unattended. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians/caregivers to know Library hours of operation and to promptly meet their children before the Library closes. Children who have not been picked up at closing will be left in the care of Law Enforcement.

Adopted December 12, 2017 Library Board of Trustees

Reviewed and approved: 1/11/24