

Patron Code of Conduct

RFPL is dedicated to providing access to knowledge and information. RFPL endeavors to provide patrons with a secure and comfortable environment in which to use materials and services.

A. Disruptive Behavior

All patrons are expected to abide by RFPL Policies. All patrons must respect the rights of others in order to create an environment conducive to equitable and enjoyable use of RFPL. Disruptive behavior is not permitted in RFPL or on its grounds and includes:

1. Endangering self or others such as:
 - Impeding ingress or egress to/from RFPL;
 - Bringing weapons or threatening objects into RFPL;
 - Throwing objects;
 - Running and/or chasing;
 - Bullying or bothering other people;
 - Photographing or filming people without their permission;
 - Bringing animals into RFPL (only service animals that provide service to patrons with disabilities are allowed in RFPL);
 - Leaving animals unattended on RFPL property;
 - Not wearing shirt and shoes while in RFPL;
 - Leaving a child under 10 years old unattended in RFPL (See Policy on Child Safety).
2. Damaging RFPL Property such as:
 - Vandalizing RFPL facility or materials;
 - Consuming food in RFPL, except at designated RFPL functions (Covered beverages are permitted in RFPL).
3. Exhibiting behavior that is inconsiderate of RFPL patrons and staff such as:
 - Engaging in, or the appearance of, prolonged or habitual sleeping;
 - Engaging in sexual behavior or sexual harassment;

- Using RFPL rest facilities for inappropriate purposes: anything other than grooming, hand washing, or using the lavatory;
 - Having bodily hygiene that is offensive so as to constitute a nuisance to patrons or staff;
 - Using RFPL for the purposes of solicitation or commercial enterprise whether or not for profit.
4. Creating inappropriate levels of noise such as:
 - Shouting or conducting loud conversations;
 - Engaging in arguments and/or using foul language;
 - Not using headphones when listening to programs with audio;
 - Cell phone ringers set to ring; all cell phones should be set to silent ring or turned off while in RFPL (Staff may designate quiet, cell phone-free areas in RFPL);
 5. Being inebriated or under the influence of illegal drugs while on RFPL property;
 6. Using illegal drugs or consuming alcohol while on RFPL property, with the exception of consuming alcohol during an after-hours pre-approved RFPL event;
 7. Leaving personal belongings unattended (RFPL is not responsible for lost items; unattended items may be turned in to lost and found);
 8. Rearranging or disarranging furniture without staff permission.

B. Enforcement

RFPL staff will enforce the Patron Code of Conduct. Patrons are expected to follow staff directives regarding use of RFPL. Patrons who violate the Patron Code of Conduct, and/or disregard staff directives may be asked to leave RFPL. Suspension of RFPL privileges may result. Written records of RFPL suspensions and incident reports will be kept on file with the Director. As necessary, the River Forest Police Department may be called. Suspected child abuse will be reported to Department of Children and Family Services. The Board authorizes RFPL management to establish and implement additional procedures to address issues of patron conduct.

Approved by the RFPL Board on October 18, 2016