

Bridgewater Public Library Behavior Policy

Bridgewater Public Library provides an inviting environment to read, study, use computers, and find a wide variety of materials selected for all age groups. The Library is a very active center of information, cultural activities, recreation, and learning. To help facilitate the Library's mission of serving as a learning and educational center for all residents of the community and to ensure that all visitors feel welcome and comfortable, we expect that all Library users adhere to the following guidelines while on the Bridgewater Public Library campus.

Appropriate activities in the Library include:

- Leisure reading.
- Research.
- Homework.
- Computer use.
- Quiet conversation with friends.

Visitors to the Library are expected to be courteous to the staff and to other patrons. The Library should only be used for its intended purposes; therefore the following behaviors are NOT acceptable:

- Physical contact including hitting, rough-housing, unwanted touch, sexual conduct, or lewd behavior.
- Disruptive noise, loud talking, banging on tables or keyboards, using devices (with or without headphones) at a volume that disturbs others, using a cell phone or other voice transmission device, or any other activity that may generate sound pollution at a volume disruptive to your fellow library patrons.
Please silence your mobile phones when entering the library.
- Soliciting or distributing materials.
- Photos of the Library grounds and buildings can be taken with prior permission. When taking pictures please be respectful of the privacy and personal space of other library users and visitors.
- Bridgewater Public Library is a tobacco and smoke free campus. Smoking, including e-cigarettes and other forms of tobacco are not allowed on any part of the library premises at any time.

- Improper use of library furniture, computers, books, and other materials.
- Destructive, threatening, and/or inappropriate, obscene or abusive language or behavior.
- Harassment, disorderly conduct, vandalism, and theft are illegal and instances of such behavior will be reported to the Bridgewater Police Department.
- Weapons are prohibited in the library.
- No person shall bring, or let into the library building, any animal other than a Seeing-Eye or other service dog, without the authorization of the Library Director.
- Children are not to be left unattended, subject to the requirements outlined in the Library Unattended Child Policy.
- No loitering near, or blocking public entrances, stairwells, or otherwise obstructing the right of way of Library staff & patrons.
- Bringing garbage or articles that may be infested, encourage or attract vermin, or have a foul odor that can disturb other persons.

Remember we all share the air and many people suffer from sensitivities and medical conditions that can be exacerbated by heavy aroma. Strong scents can negatively impact others. Wearing or spraying highly scented products such as perfumes or air fresheners is prohibited. If a person's odor is so strong that it interferes with other patrons or staff, they will be asked to leave the library until the situation is remedied.

All visitors to Bridgewater Public Library are expected to comply with all reasonable requests or direction of any member of Library staff. Failure to do so may result in loss of library privileges.

Anyone exhibiting any of the above unacceptable behaviors or otherwise found in violation of Library policy will be asked to cease all such behaviors immediately and will be told to leave. Repeat incidents may result in the loss of library privileges.

Last Revised Aug. 1. 2022