

The Kanawha County Public Library System welcomes all residents and visitors and is dedicated to free and equal access to information, knowledge, and independent learning. The Library seeks through the **Public Code of Behavior Policy** to ensure that patrons and staff will be able to enjoy library facilities that are peaceful, comfortable, and safe. With public service as the highest priority, the Board of Directors has established the rules governing the use of the library so that all persons may enjoy its benefits. The Library will uphold all federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances regarding public behavior.

All Library Patrons Can Expect To:

- Receive courteous service.
- Be treated fairly and equitably by staff and all members of the library community.
- Have questions and comments addressed in a timely manner.
- Suggest new materials, programs, and services.
- Have a safe, clean, and comfortable building.

Compliance

Patrons who enter any Kanawha County Public Library facility indicate a willingness and ability to act courteously toward all persons in the library, respect library property, and follow laws and ordinances.

Show respect for others by behaving in ways that allow all patrons and staff to enjoy safe, comfortable, and peaceful experiences while in the library.

- Use a quiet, respectful tone and language while in the library, including when speaking to patrons and staff. Enjoy the premises in a physically calm and alert manner.
- Allow others to have access to and use library services, materials, and displays.
- Use of the Children's area is reserved for children and supervising adults or patrons using the Children's collection.
- Children under the age of twelve should be accompanied by a supervising adult at all times.
- Dress appropriately and follow generally acceptable personal hygiene practices. Shoes and shirts are required.
- Cell phones may be used in a non-disruptive manner. Use earphones with audio/video devices.
- Follow the Electronic Resources and Usage Policy regarding use of workstations and wireless computers.
- Keep personal belongings to a minimum (no more than three small bags, like backpacks), and with you always. For the safety of our patrons, all bags may be searched by security staff.
- Use library furniture properly and respect its location and placement.
- Use restroom facilities appropriately and keep them clean.
- Maintain good personal hygiene practices by avoiding overwhelming body odor and excessive perfume or cologne.
- Consume food and beverages in designated areas.

Show respect for laws and ordinances by behaving responsibly, legally, and ethically. Please note that the following are examples of unlawful or unacceptable behavior.

- Use of loud, abusive, threatening, or insulting language or behavior, including language that offends, threatens, or insults groups or individuals based on race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or other protected classes.
- Activities or behaviors that may result in injury or harm.
- Smoking, vaping, or using tobacco products of any kind.
- Selling, soliciting, panhandling, or distributing unauthorized printed materials.
- Bringing animals, other than trained service animals, onto library property.
- Possessing, dispensing, using or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Possessing, weapons, firearms, incendiary, or explosive devices.
- Other behavior that could reasonably be expected to disturb other users or interfere with the library staff's performance of duties.