

**Dover Public
Library**

***Acceptable
Behavior
Policy***

***Respect Yourself
Respect Others
Respect the Space***



Dover Public Library
35 Loockerman Plaza
Dover, DE 19901
302-736-7030
www.doverpubliclibrary.org



DPL Advisory Commission
March 18, 2009
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The Library maintains an atmosphere that promotes the use and enjoyment of its resources and services; promotes the safety of the public and Library staff; and protects the building, furniture, equipment, and materials of the Library. All members of the public are welcome at the Dover Public Library. We expect Library staff to treat customers of the Library with respect. In turn, we expect Library patrons to respect the Library by behaving in such a way that their actions do not interfere with the functions of the Library or with the convenience and comfort of other customers.

While on Library Property:

- All persons shall respect the rights of others. No one shall harass, annoy, or interfere with any other person by means of physical contact, communication or other intrusive behavior. No one shall interfere with Library personnel in the performance of their duties.
- Any activity that is inconsistent with normal library purposes is not allowed. Some examples of this are: bathing, washing laundry, sleeping, sexual activity, loitering, or panhandling.
- No one may deface, destroy, steal, move or misuse any Library materials, furnishings, equipment or other Library property. Patrons must abide by the DPL Computer Use policy.
- The use of alcohol or any drug constituting a controlled, dangerous substance as defined by law is not permitted. No one under the influence of alcohol or such drugs shall be permitted in the Library or on its grounds.
- The City of Dover is a smoke-free campus. Smoking and/or the use of tobacco, Vapes, or any similar device is not allowed and subject to fines.
- Only law enforcement personnel may be in possession of weapons or firearms in the Library or on Library grounds.
- Patrons must be fully clothed while in the Library. Shirts and shoes must be worn at all times.
- Conversations shall be conducted quietly. Shouting, loud voices, abusive or offensive language are not acceptable behavior.
- Computer and device users must wear headphones when needed to minimize disruptive noise.
- The Library requests that cell phones be set to silent while in the Library. While conversing on cell phones, patrons must speak quietly and with discretion. Cell phone use is strictly prohibited in Quiet Study Areas of the Library.
- Patrons shall dispose of litter and debris in trash containers and leave table tops and chairs clean.
- Food and drink may only be consumed in meeting rooms as part of the program or meeting being held.
- Animals, except for service animals as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act, are not permitted except in connection with Library programs.
- Personal belongings are subject to inspection by Library personnel and may not be left unattended. The Library is not responsible for lost or stolen personal property.
- Luggage, bedding, or camping gear are not permitted in the Library. Only one bag is allowed per person. Bags that do not fit in the Library bag-sizer are not permitted.
- Use of the restrooms for any purpose other than which they are intended is strictly prohibited.
- The Family Restroom in the Children's Department is available for use by children with their parents or caregivers only.
- Running, rollerblading, skateboarding and similar activities are not permitted in the Library or on Library grounds.
- Bicycles may not be brought inside the Library or left in an area that blocks access in any way.
- The entrances to the Library may not be blocked.
- No unauthorized sales, solicitations of contributions, or collection of signatures by any outside organization or individual are permitted.
- Children must be under the supervision of a person responsible for their care.
- It is expected that minors under the age of eighteen (18) will not be left at the Library after closing time. Library staff will not remain on the premises past closing. For the safety of the children, the Dover Police will be notified that minors are present and unaccompanied after closing hours.

Anyone who fails to meet these standards of acceptable behavior or any other Library policy will be required to leave the premises. If unacceptable behavior occurs again, the individual may be denied the privilege of Library use for a set period of time or indefinitely. The Dover Public Library reserves the right to amend this Policy at any time.