

Patron Code of Conduct

To provide all patrons and staff with an appropriate library environment, assure proper access to all Hudson Area Library (Library) facilities, materials, and services, and ensure personal safety and comfort to all, the Board of Trustees has established the following Patron Code of Conduct:

1. While in the Library, patrons shall be engaged in activities commonly associated with the use of a public library.
2. Reasonable quiet is expected, especially in designated reading or work areas. No patron may disturb others using the Library. Cell phone usage shall be limited and conducted in a quiet and unoffending manner; ringers must be inaudible while in the Library.
3. Misconduct, including criminal acts, aggressive or persistent loud behavior, running, pushing, sleeping, soliciting, loitering, littering, and other behavior reasonably deemed offensive by Library staff, will result in expulsion from the building and suspension of library privileges.
4. For the safety of our patrons and staff, there shall be no running, skating, or use of skateboards on Library property.
5. Responsibility for children using the library rests with parents, guardians, or assigned chaperones. At all times, parents or caregivers must supervise the behavior of their children. Children aged 7 and under must be in the immediate vicinity of and in visual contact with a responsible caregiver aged 13 or older while in the library. In compliance with school attendance laws, children under the age of 16 are not permitted on Library property during school hours, unless accompanied by a parent, teacher, or legal guardian.
6. The Children's Area is to be used only by children, adults accompanying their children, or adults using the resources only available in that location.
7. Light snacks are permitted in designated areas away from library computers, equipment, and materials. Meals, hot food, and messy or strongly scented foods are prohibited. Beverages are permitted only in covered containers. Food and drink may be permitted for library programs or events at the discretion of the Library Director or their designee.
8. Only animals assisting the handicapped or involved in Library programming are permitted in the building.
9. Patrons must be properly attired, including shirts and shoes.
10. Library materials must be returned on time and in good condition.
11. The Library is a smoke-free establishment. Additionally, there shall be no smoking in the areas immediately adjacent to the building.
12. Anyone deliberately altering a Library computer database or destroying computer equipment will forfeit all library privileges, be subject to financial liability for damages, and may be subject to criminal penalties.
13. Anyone who vandalizes, steals, or destroys any Library material, equipment or building components will forfeit all library privileges, be subject to financial liability for damages, and may be subject to criminal penalties.

Patron concerns should be brought to the attention of the Library Director.