



Serving Appling, Bacon, Clinch, Pierce, and Ware Counties

Library Patron Conduct Policy

Approved by Regional Library Board of Trustees on May 7, 2012, revised May 7, 2018

The Okefenokee Regional Library System strives to provide an atmosphere that is conducive to the appropriate use of Library services and resources for all Library patrons. Each person who visits one of our libraries is required to:

- Respect the rights of other Library patrons;
- Respect the property of the Library and the property of others;
- Accept responsibility for their actions; AND
- Abide by all local, state, and federal policies and/or laws.

To ensure the maintenance of a pleasant environment and to protect the resources of the Library, the following guidelines have been established defining appropriate behavior for all those who visit one of our libraries.

- Children under the age of nine (9) years of age and dependent persons must be accompanied by a responsible person who is thirteen (13) years of age or older while in the Library.
- Food and/or drinks are discouraged; Library staff may limit/restrict food and/or drinks as they feel necessary to protect Library property.
- Clothing, including a shirt, pants/skirt/dress, and shoes, are required on Library property.
- Disruptive and/or unsafe behaviors are prohibited on Library property; disruptive and/or unsafe behavior is defined as any behavior that:
 - 1) Adversely affects the ability of other patrons to and/or enjoy the Library;
 - 2) Causes health or safety concerns to people or property; AND/OR
 - 3) Disrupts the normal operations and functions of the Library and Library staff.

Disruptive and/or unsafe behavior may include, but is not limited to:

- Harassment of Library patrons and/or Library staff
- Soliciting
- Destroying, damaging, and/or removing any Library property and/or the property of Library patrons
- Entering Staff-Only areas of the Library
- Use of tobacco products, including vaping / e-cigarette products, on Library grounds
- Being intoxicated and/or under the influence of a controlled substance
- Using, giving away, and/or selling of any controlled substance
- Fighting and/or challenging a fight
- Remaining in the Library building after operating hours
- Refusing to comply with requests of Library staff

Patrons who violate the Library Patron Conduct Policy will be asked to leave the Library premises and could lose Library privileges and/or face prosecution depending on the severity of the violation.