



Patron Behavior Policy

Policy Statement

To ensure that all people who use and work at the East Moline Public Library can do so in a comfortable and safe environment, the East Moline Public Library reserves the right to determine what it considers to be disruptive or inappropriate behavior by the patrons in the library. Patrons visiting or using the library's facilities or services must comply with the Patron Behavior Policy while on the library's premises.

Enforcement of Behavior Policy

Library staff have the authority to enforce the Patron Behavior Policy by asking that the behavior stop or in some cases, asking a patron to leave for the day. Patrons who do not comply with staff requests to leave will be reported to the East Moline Police Department for removal from the library.

The Library Director will determine if additional action should be taken, including issuing a library ban. Library bans are issued in 1 week, 1 month, and 6 month increments. In the absence of the Library Director, the acting Director may issue a ban until the date of the Library Director's return. Ban appeals may be made to the Library Board of Trustees.

The Library Board of Trustees reserves the right to issue 1 year and/or permanent bans.

Prohibited Activities

- Any behavior that is prohibited by law
- Any behavior that endangers the safety or health of self and/or others
- Harassment of staff or patrons
- Vandalism or destruction of library materials or property
- Petitioning, soliciting, or selling merchandise or services
- Viewing pornographic or lewd materials on the public computers
- Any behavior which has been deemed disruptive by library staff

Unattended Children Guidelines

- Children ages 5 and younger must be attended by a responsible person at all times.
- Children ages 6-8 may remain unattended in the children's area up to 30 minutes if the responsible person is in the library.
- Children ages 9-15 may come to the library alone. If they become disruptive, library staff will ask them to leave after one warning.

- Adults who do not discipline disruptive children will be asked to take the children from the library.
- The police will be called when children have been left at the library indefinitely, especially at closing time.

Animals in the Library

Only service animals are allowed in the Library. The state of Illinois defines a service animal as “an animal trained in obedience and task skills to meet the needs of a person with a disability.” Emotional support animals are not allowed in the library.

Approved by the Library Board of Trustees on May 17, 2015; reviewed July 24, 2019; revised August 26th, 2024