

STANLY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

The public library's purpose is to welcome and serve all individuals and groups who wish to use appropriately its materials and facilities. The Code of conduct is not meant to restrict library use or to deny library services and facilities to people who need them. Instead, the Code defines major public library services which citizens should be able to use and the staff should be able to provide in a safe, pleasant environment without harassment or interference.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY SOME OR ALL STANLY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES, ACCORDING TO WRITTEN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

1. Books and related materials for reading and study within the library buildings, and the lending of some of these materials for use outside of the buildings.
2. Information and reference services to people of all ages in person or by telephone.
3. Conference rooms when scheduled in advance to educational, cultural, civic, and governmental agencies.
4. Exhibits and displays which are approved and scheduled with library personnel.
5. Library tours and programs for educational, cultural, and entertainment purposes.

TO THE END OF PROVIDING A SUITBLE ENVIRONMENT FOR USE OF THE LIBRARIES, THESE FORMS OF CONDUCT ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE LIBRARIES OR ON LIBRARY PROPERTY

1. Conversations which disturb or interrupt readers in reading/study areas.
2. Blocking or interfering with the free movement of the individuals.
3. Sitting at tables beyond the limit of chairs normally assigned to that table.
4. Sitting, standing, or lying on tables, stacks, or stair steps inside library buildings.
5. Unauthorized or unscheduled group meetings.
6. Smoking in the library buildings. The Stanly County Smoke-Free Policy applies to all library buildings.
7. Food and beverages brought into and used in public areas of library buildings.
8. Loitering or sleeping.
9. Animals in library buildings except properly trained and utilizes service animal.
10. Listening to radios, recordings, digital audio/video or other audio or video devices or cassettes except with earphones.
11. Sexual activity, solicitation, and harassment of staff and patrons in the library buildings or on library grounds.
12. Consumption or exchange of alcoholic beverages and drugs on library property.
13. Use of rest rooms for meetings, loitering, solicitation for immoral purposes, consumption or exchange of drugs and alcoholic beverages.

14. Solicitation of money, selling of any kind (except sales of public library material by library staff or Friends Association as authorized by the library), or distribution of literature not approved by the library administration.
15. Use of library telephones by anyone other than library personnel unless approved by library staff.
16. Entry to non-public areas except by invitation or approval of library personnel.
17. Theft, mutilation, and defacement of library property.
18. Threats, abuse, and/or physical harm to library patrons or employees.
19. Taking library property outside library buildings without authorization by library personnel through established lending procedures.
20. Other activities which are illegal or which prevent staff and patrons from using library services, furniture, facilities, and materials for their intended purposes.
21. Use of elevator except by library personnel.
22. Automobiles parked on library property when the driver is not using the library.
23. Possessing firearms or other lethal weapons whether or not they are concealed.
24. Bringing bicycles up the ramp of the library building
25. Skateboards, roller skates, and rollerblades are prohibited on library property.

Individual(s) who engage in any of the above actions will first be asked to cease by library personnel. If, after being warned by library personnel, an individual(s) continues to engage in the prohibited conduct, that individual(s) will be asked to leave the public library premises. If, after being asked to leave the premises, an individual(s) persists in the prohibited conduct and/or refuses to leave the public library buildings and grounds, the individual(s) will be considered a trespasser(s) and will be subject to arrest as such. At the discretion of library personnel, the Police Department will be contacted whenever necessary to enforce compliance with this code of conduct.

(Amended June 10, 1993)