

**Nampa Public Library**  
**Patron Rules of Conduct POLICY**

*Approved by the Board of Directors February 9, 2015*

*Updated January 9, 2018*

*Updated 8.14.2018*

*Updated 5.10.2022*

To best serve all Library users and staff, certain standards and rules of behavior have been established by the Board of Trustees. While everyone has an equal right to access Library services and facilities, no person has the right to interfere with the ability of others to use and enjoy Library resources, services, and facilities.

The Nampa Public Library seeks to provide its users with a safe pleasant library experience. The library recognizes its unique position and responsibility to educate, inform, and enlighten our community.

**To ensure access to library services and for the safety of all users, the following behaviors are prohibited on library property:**

- Any activity in violation of federal, state, or local law
- Verbally or physically threatening or harassing other visitors, library staff or volunteers, including stalking, staring, touching, or using offensive language
- Engaging in any type of sexual contact, activities, or conduct
- Possessing, selling, distributing, consuming or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
- Smoking, use of smokeless tobacco products, e-cigarettes, or other electronic smoking devices
- Defacing or otherwise damaging library property
- Intentionally deceiving or disobeying a directive of library staff
- The possession of a deadly weapon (as defined by Idaho Code, except for firearms in a person's lawful possession) on library property is prohibited
- Taking photographs or videos of library users without their permission
- Inappropriate conduct while using public technology
- Eating, except as designated; drinks in securely covered containers are allowed
- Monopolizing library staff or resources
- Improper use of library furniture/equipment
- Selling, soliciting, surveying, panhandling, or canvassing for any political, charitable, or religious purpose inside the library building, doorway or vestibule without prior authorization by the Library Director
- Making loud noise, including cell phone conversations
- Running, pushing, shoving, or throwing objects
- Improperly using library restrooms
- Using recreational wheeled devices such as skateboards, scooters, or similar devices
- Being in the library barefooted or without a shirt
- Offensive body odor or personal hygiene so as to be disruptive to the library environment
- Bringing to the Library any animal other than a service animal, which can only be a dog as designated by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Having service animals that are out of control or sitting on furniture, and the handler does not take effective action to control the animal, or service animals that are not housebroken.
- Violating the Unattended Child Policy (do not leave children under the age of eight unsupervised)
- Sleeping, napping, or dozing in or on library premises
- Depositing trash anywhere other than in garbage receptacles provided

- Leaving packages, backpacks, luggage, or any other personal items unattended. Personal property must be situated with the owner and must not block aisles
- Using areas of the library for other than their intended purpose, including:
  - Adults not accompanied by a child in the children's area, unless actively browsing the collection \*
  - Adults and children under 12 years not accompanied by a teenager in the teen area, unless actively browsing the collection \*

Library staff will intervene to stop Patron Rules of Conduct infractions and will involve law enforcement as appropriate.

Repeated offenses by a minor will result in notification of the parent/guardian.

\*Teen as defined by Idaho State Law as under age 18 (eighteen), or a high school senior

### **Infractions of Library Policies:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> instance – A verbal warning will be issued, and the individual will be given a copy of this policy. The warning will include verbal notification of trespass\* for the day if behavior continues
- 2<sup>nd</sup> instance – Patron will be trespassed\* for seven days
- 3<sup>rd</sup> instance - Patron will be trespassed\* for thirty days at the discretion of the Director
- 4<sup>th</sup> instance – Patron will be trespassed\* for 12 months or more at the discretion of the library Board of Trustees

\*Trespassed – Not permitted on library property, inside building or immediate building perimeter

### **Enforcement:**

The Nampa Public Library Board of Trustees delegates the Director the authority to enforce the Rules of Conduct.

The Library has a policy of zero tolerance for threats or acts of violence. Any person engaging in such behaviors will be immediately trespassed\* from the library.

Instances of illegal activity, including sexual activity will result in immediate trespass\* from the library.

All bags and other articles are subject to inspection by library staff.

### **Restoration of Access:**

Customers who have their entry and use of the Library facility revoked may appeal within ten (10) days in writing to the Library Director to have his or her privilege to enter the Library restored. The appeal must be submitted to the Library Director during the period of revocation.

The Director shall review a timely written appeal and provide the Customer with a written decision and meeting to discuss Patron Rules of Conduct policy. Patrons have the right to request a Board review of any revocation that exceeds thirty (30) days. The appeal will be included on the next Library Board meeting agenda as long as it is received by the Wednesday before the scheduled meeting is posted. The decision of the Board of Trustees is final.

