



Patron Code of Conduct

Approved: Sept. 15, 2022

As a civic resource, the West Fargo Public Library (WFPL) aims to provide equitable access to resources and opportunities so that residents can learn, meet, share, read, play, and create. Patrons are asked to observe the following rules of conduct to ensure the rights and safety of WFPL patrons and staff and to preserve and protect WFPL materials and facilities. Parents, guardians, or designated caregivers are responsible for the actions of minors under their care while interacting with WFPL property or programs per the Unattended Children Policy.

The following list is not exhaustive. Inappropriate behavior not specifically identified in this policy may be identified at the discretion of library staff on duty with the Library Director reserving the right to make further exceptions on a case-by-case basis. The WFPL and its staff are not responsible for lost, stolen, or the condition of personal property brought onto the premises.

Patrons who violate any of these guidelines will be given notice of this policy. A violation may result in a patron's expulsion from the WFPL, suspension of WFPL privileges, criminal prosecution, or other legal action as appropriate. An individual who is banned from the library may be charged with trespassing if they return to library property during the term of the ban. Any individual who is banned and whose WFPL privileges have been revoked may appeal that decision by submitting a written request to the Library Director and the West Fargo Public Library Board of Directors within thirty (30) days of the alleged offense.

The following are breaches of the West Fargo Public Library Patron Code of Conduct:

1. Noisy or otherwise disruptive behavior.
2. Behavior that endangers the health or safety of anyone present in the WFPL, including oneself.
3. Harassment of any kind.
4. Willful use of threatening or obscene language or gestures.
5. Leaving vulnerable adults who need supervision or children unattended per the Unattended Children Policy.
6. Poor treatment or theft of WFPL property.
7. Bringing animals (except certified service animals) into the WFPL without prior library staff approval.
8. Promotions or solicitation of outside services or initiatives without prior library staff approval.
9. Wearing inappropriate attire. This includes but is not limited to the insufficient covering of one's body, including the absence of footwear.
10. Consumption of odored food or drink or an unreasonable amount of food or drink.
11. Monopolizing WFPL resources or staff time. This includes but is not limited to using library phones for more than emergency or transportation purposes.
12. Poor hygiene that constitutes a nuisance.
13. Leaving personal belongings unattended by oneself for an extended period of time or in a potentially unsafe manner; bringing in personal recreational equipment.
14. Use of tobacco or marijuana products, including chewing tobacco, synthetic tobacco products or electronic (smokeless, or their equivalent), or cigarettes on WFPL property; use, display, or distribution of alcohol or illegal drugs.
15. The carrying or use of weapons.
16. Sleeping.
17. Disregarding any other WFPL policy.
18. Engaging in any illegal activity on the property or its sister buildings.