

## Rules of Conduct

The Southworth Library seeks to provide a safe, secure, and welcoming environment for patrons and staff. Behaviors that disrupt Library services are not permitted. These rules apply to all public spaces in the Library and on Library grounds.

The following behaviors are **NOT** permitted:

1. **Any behavior that is disruptive to library use, services, or operations**
2. Engaging in any activity prohibited by law
3. Engaging in disorderly conduct of any kind including fighting or challenging to fight, or using obscene/offensive words likely to provoke violence
4. Use of loud, abusive, threatening, obscene, or insulting language or gestures
5. Indecent exposure or sexual misconduct
6. Harassment
7. Smoking or other uses of tobacco in all forms
8. Misuse of rest rooms. Misuse includes shaving, washing clothing, and bathing (other than face and hands) as well as unnecessary long occupation of the facilities.
9. Entering or being in the Library with no shoes or shirt
10. Public intoxication or consumption of alcohol
11. Private food consumption that is disruptive to library use. All drinks must be in covered containers
12. Rollerblades, roller skates, skateboards, bicycles, other sports equipment, or large shopping carts in the Library or on Library property (other than storing bicycles in bicycle racks provided)
13. Blocking sidewalks or entrances to Library
14. Entering unauthorized library areas
15. Animals, except for guide and assistance animals are not allowed in the library. Animals may not be tied to Library property. Service animals should have proof of current vaccinations
16. Sleeping
17. Petitioning, selling and/or soliciting for services, money, or items
18. Intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing on library premises
19. Destroying or damaging library materials or property
20. Any behavior that creates loud or disturbing noises created by persons, electronic devices, or cell phones.

Failure to comply with the Library's established rules and regulations may result in immediate exclusion from the Library for the day, or an extended period of time and/or permanently, and can result in arrest. Library staff has the right to request identification.

Communication of threats, physical violence, or sexual offenses will result in immediate exclusion. If violators do not leave, the police will be called and the Library will file trespassing charges. Trespassers will be arrested and prosecuted. Theft of Library materials is a serious offense and will result in exclusion from the Library and possible arrest.

### Appeal Process

Persons banned from the library and or the Internet may appeal this ban by sending a written request to the Library Director explaining the circumstances and requesting a review of the ban. The exclusions will be removed upon review with the director and agreement to follow the above rules of conduct.

1/28/2013

