**Library Conduct**

Patron Responsibilities and Conduct

\*On Library premises, no person shall engage in:

1. The commission of any assault or an assault and battery upon any person;
2. Any fight;
3. The commission of any offense of stealing or larceny, or of stealing or taking, without permission, of any property that is not the person's own property, including, but not limited to, property of CPL, property of any Library facility, property of any patron of the Library, or property of any staff member of the Library (with the term "Property" including both funds and property of any kind);
4. Possessing on the Library premises a firearm, knife, or any other weapon of any kind, unless authorized by law;
5. Destroying, damaging or defacing any property of the CPL or property of any other person;
6. Any indecent, obscene or obviously obnoxious conduct or making any indecent exposure of one's person;
7. The misusing, giving away, possessing, passing to another or selling of any controlled substance; provided that, use of a controlled substance which is authorized by a healthcare practitioner's prescription, in accordance with such prescription, shall be permitted;
8. Remaining in or refusing to vacate a Library facility after regular closing hours;
9. The harassing of any other person, verbally or non‑verbally, or by conduct, contact or gesture, with the term "Harass" being defined as any verbal or non‑verbal communication or any conduct that would reasonably be perceived by another person as being frightening to such person, embarrassing to such person, or as being conduct which would reasonably anger another person who is the object of such communication or conduct. ["Harass" shall further include any communication, verbal or non‑verbal, or conduct that the person accused should have reason to know is likely to produce fear, embarrassment, or anger in the person or persons towards whom the communication or conduct is directed or to anyone who is in the presence of such conduct or communication, and shall further include any verbal communication which, by its very utterance, inflicts physical or emotional injury or would tend to incite an immediate breach of the peace];
10. Any sexual harassment of any person on Library premises;
11. Being a person or being included in a group of persons who engage in activities, gestures, conduct or communications which is threatening or otherwise menacing to persons on or within the CPL or within the area;
12. Consuming and/or possessing alcoholic beverages or other intoxicants on Library premises;
13. Being impaired or intoxicated on Library premises by the use of any controlled substance or alcohol;
14. Failing to wear, on Library premises, appropriate clothing, including, but not limited to shirts and shoes, as shirts and shoes are required;
15. Consuming food and beverages within any Library facility, except in designated areas;
16. Bringing an animal into any Library building except for an animal assisting a person with disabilities, or an animal that is used as a part of a Library program;
17. Selling or soliciting for sale any goods or services on Library premises, unless approved by the Director;
18. Making noise or behaving in such a way that disrupts Library services or operations, or the reasonably peaceful use of Library facilities by any Library patrons;
19. Gaming activities, or gambling on the premises of any Library facility;
20. Creating an unreasonable disturbance that interferes with the activities of any Library patron or staff member, including making of any such disturbance through the use of photography, film or television equipment;
21. Persisting in disturbing the public peace by loud or aggressive conduct, or by talking, singing, or making any loud or boisterous sound with a volume that is louder than the general noise level of the surrounding area at that time, provided that this policy shall not prohibit quiet conversation between patrons and/or staff members or those conversations which are reasonably required to carry out Library programs or business;
22. Using foul or abusive language;
23. Using or operating audio equipment (including radios, CD players, boom boxes, disc players, televisions, tape recorders, video games, electronic games, and any similar audio equipment) without earphones or headsets, or in any manner such that people can hear the noise or sound from two or more feet away;
24. Using Library furniture or other property in any reasonably inappropriate fashion;
25. Using any Library workstation, or any part of the Library premises or any part of the premises of any Library facility for illegal or criminal purposes;
26. Using Library facility computers without following the guidelines for use of such computers;

27. Using any Library facility as a substitute for childcare; it being understood that parents shall not leave minor children, under the age of 6, unsupervised by a responsible adult at any Library facility on a regular basis;

28. Roaming or spending time in the library without having an appropriate focus (such as reading, using a computer, studying, meeting, etc.) for the library visit.

These examples of conduct, which are a violation of these Rules for Behavior, are examples only and are not intended to be all inclusive or to be exclusive of other conduct or actions which would reasonably be found to be damaging to the maintenance of a safe and reasonably peaceable environment at the Canton Public Library, where such environment is required for the appropriate use of Library facilities and materials by Library patrons and for the proper carrying out by Library staff of their duties and obligations.

If a patron violates any of the Rules for Behavior, that patron may be restricted from the Library and from the use of the library facilities. Those who are unwilling to leave or do not leave within a reasonable amount of time, after being instructed to do so by the staff, will be subject to the law.

Young Children

The Canton Public Library encourages visits by young children and it is our desire to make this important visit both memorable and enjoyable for the child. Library staff is not expected to assume responsibility for the care of unsupervised children in the library.

Therefore, it is library policy that all children under age six must be accompanied by a parent or designated responsible person while in the library. Also, if the young child is attending a library program, we require the parent/ responsible person to remain in the library throughout the program.

Disruptive Children

Children of all ages are encouraged to use the library for homework, recreational reading, and program attendance. The library staff realizes that the library will be noisier at busy times and that children by nature can cause more commotion. However, children (whether with parents or not) who are being continually disruptive will be given a warning that he/she must settle down or will be asked to leave the library. If after a second warning the child continues to be disruptive, he/she will be asked to leave the library. If the child needs to contact a parent, they may do so and then wait with a staff person until the parent arrives.