

Comsewogue Public Library
Public Behavior Policy

In order to maintain a safe and welcoming environment for reading, learning and other Library activities, Comsewogue Public Library requires all visitors to comply with the following General Rules and Regulations:

The following are NOT allowed at Comsewogue Public Library:

- Engaging in conduct that disrupts or interferes with normal operation of the Library, or that disturbs staff or other Library visitors. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to:
 - Harassing or threatening behavior.
 - Using obscene or abusive language or gestures.
 - Being unreasonably loud, including on a cell phone, as determined by a staff member.
(Designated area for talking on a cell phone is the Gallery.)
- Engaging in sexual conduct or lewd behavior.
- Having a knife, gun, or any other weapon.
- Smoking, including e-cigarettes, as per County Law.
- Eating and drinking (covered drinks and snacks) is permitted, except in computer areas.
- Using alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Sleeping in the Library or at the Library's entrance.
- Making unreasonable use of the rest rooms, including laundering clothes and bathing.
- Soliciting, petitioning, or canvassing.
- Selling any goods or services.
- Using skates, skateboards, scooters, or anything like them; indoors or out.
- Bringing in an animal, unless it is assisting a person with a disability.
- Damaging, defacing, or misusing any Library materials or property. This includes disabling Library equipment, changing the hardware or software or settings on a Library computer, or using a Library computer for a purpose other than that designated by the Library.
- Engaging in any activity in violation of federal, state, local, or other applicable law or Library policies.

Please also be aware that:

- The Library is not responsible for personal items that are lost, stolen, or damaged on Library premises.
- Visitors are not permitted to bring oversized bags or shopping carts into the Library.
- Library security officers and staff can inspect any of your property when you come in or leave.
- You must wear clothing and shoes in the Library and your body odor must not be so offensive that it disturbs others.

- Some items in the Library cannot be copied because of copyright laws, poor condition, or donor restrictions.
- The Library is not responsible for children who are left unattended on Library premises; please see the Library's Unattended Children Policy.
- Library staff and security officers can ask visitors to show their Library cards or other ID at any time.
- Large groups that want to visit the Library have to get permission before they visit.
- Photography and recording are not allowed on Library premises without prior permission.
- Certain reading rooms and other Library spaces have additional restrictions.

Visitors with disabilities may ask Library staff for reasonable accommodations.

Visitors who do not follow the Library's Public Behavior Policy can be asked to leave and can lose their Library privileges. They can also be arrested or be subject to other legal action.

*Board adopted November 18, 2014
Revised for Clarification Purposes – April 20, 2015
Revised & Board adopted March 27, 2018*