

## EAST FISHKILL PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT CODE OF CONDUCT

To allow all patrons of the East Fishkill Public Library District to use its facilities to the fullest extent during regularly scheduled hours, the Library Board of Trustees has adopted the following rules and regulations.

Any patron not abiding by these or other rules and regulations of the Library may be required to leave the Library premises and/or be denied the privilege of access to the Library's materials and resources by the Library's Board of Trustees, on the recommendation of the Library Director. Library employees may contact the police if deemed advisable.

A patron whose privileges have been denied may have the decision reviewed by the Board of Trustees. Any appeals on policy matters must be submitted to the Board of Trustees in writing. This includes any patron whose privileges have been denied.

### PATRONS SHALL:

- Respect the rights of other patrons.
- Comply with the reasonable requests of Library staff.
- Remove materials from the Library only after check-out on a valid library card.
- Be responsible for any fines, fees or other charges due in accordance with the Library's standard schedules.
- Wear attire appropriate to a public building, including shoes.
- Maintain a generally acceptable standard of personal hygiene.
- Cover all beverages.
- Turn off cell phone ringers and if using a cell phone in the library speak quietly enough not to disturb others.

### PATRONS SHALL NOT:

- Consume food or beverages except in designated areas.
- Smoke, vape, or use tobacco products in the library building.
- Possess or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, except that alcohol may be possessed at Library functions for which the serving of alcohol has been approved.
- Engage in any illegal activity while in the Library building or grounds.
- Possess firearms, other weapons, or explosives.
- Interfere with the use of the Library by other patrons, or interfere with Library employees' performance of their duties.
- Harass or annoy others through noisy or boisterous activities, with offensive or abusive language, with lewd or indecent behavior, by fighting, provoking a fight or demonstrating threatening or intimidating behavior, by staring at another person with the intent to annoy that person, by following another person about the building with the intent to annoy that person, by playing audio equipment so that others can hear it, by singing or talking loudly to others or in monologues, or by

behaving in a manner that would constitute disorderly conduct under New York State Penal Law Section 240.20.

- Post or put on display any lewd, indecent, abusive, or offensive, objects, drawings, paintings etc.
- Photographing or videotaping must not interfere with any library operations. Patrons may not photograph, videotape, or record other patrons on Library premises.
- Gamble, solicit funds, and/or distribute literature or promotional material.
- Engage in demonstrable and/or vocal expressions of prayer.
- Use the Library facility for canvassing, selling, soliciting, or engaging in any other commercial activity, with the exception of Tutors, who are limited by the Library's current Tutoring Policy.
- Deface, mar, or destroy Library property including books, magazines, newspapers, recordings or other items in the Library collection, Library furnishings, walls, machines, etc. Anyone who intentionally defaces or destroys library property may be subject to criminal and /or civil penalties under New York State law and will be subject to financial liability for damages.
- Bring pets or animals into the Library other than service animals; service animals in training; guide dogs, or therapeutic animals licensed by the New York State or as or animals that are part of an approved Library program. Service animals must be clearly identified and licensed; licensing documentation must be in possession of the owner or handler while in the Library.
- Sleep in the library.
- Leave personal belonging unattended; if person items are left unattended the police will be call for property removal due to security concerns.

#### UNATTENDED CHILDREN

The library staff does not act in loco parentis for any minor child. Children under the age of eleven (11) must be accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian. Children 11 years of age or older may use the library without a parent or guardian on premises provided that:

- the child is able to abide by patron rules
- parents can be contacted in case the child is in need or during a library emergency
- parents can be contacted in case of an unscheduled closing

In the event that a child is left unattended and the above listed criteria are not met the local or state police will be called to take custody of the child.

Notwithstanding the above, a minor child thirteen (13) or older may be responsible for a younger minor child without adult supervision provided that the above listed criteria are met.