



Patron Code of Conduct

Welcome to the Riviera Beach Public Library. Our library is supported by the taxes of the citizens of the City of Riviera Beach who have a right to expect the library to be a clean, pleasant and safe place for selecting materials, reading, researching, studying, writing and attending Riviera Beach Public Library sponsored or community programs and meetings. For the comfort and safety of all library patrons, all library users must adhere to this code. The spirit of this code is to ensure a pleasant environment for everyone who is using the library.

Further, the Riviera Beach Public Library's Code of Patron Conduct is intended to encourage behavior which supports the Library's mission to provide information and resources in an acceptable welcoming environment. The code is also designed within the framework of existing local, state and federal laws, the American Library Association (ALA) *Code of Professional Ethics*, *ALA's Guidelines for the Development of Policies and Procedures Regarding User Behavior and Library Usage (January 24, 1993)*, and the *Library Bill of Rights*. The Riviera Beach Public Library strives to provide facilities in which both library users and staff can be free from harassment, intimidation, and threats to their safety.

EXPECTED BEHAVIOR

Library users are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that does not violate the rights of others, and does not result in damage to library property. As such, the Riviera Beach Public Library expects its patrons to conduct themselves in the following manner:

- Respect other users' rights of access, both physically and intellectually, to the library
- Appropriate use of library materials, equipment and property
- Take responsibility for your personal property
- Wear appropriate public attire, including shoes and shirts
- Each parent is responsible for the behavior of their children using the library
- Patrons must comply with the library's internet policy

PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR

- Abuse or vandalism of Riviera Beach Public Library materials, equipment or property
- Disruptive use of cell phones, beepers, radio, television or other electronic equipment
- Inappropriate use of library computers, such as:
 - Damaging or altering computer equipment or software
 - Downloading or installing any program on the hard drive of any computer
 - Playing interactive games or using online chatting programs
 - Sending, displaying or printing obscene materials

- Loitering, including refusal to leave at closing
- Loud talking
- Leaving children under eight years of age unattended
- Entering the library with any animal, other than a service animal that assists a patron with disabilities
- Willful destruction of library property or personal property of library users or staff
- Soliciting, selling, campaigning, posting of notices or petitions, and distributing of leaflets not authorized through the library administrative office
- Eating or drinking in non-designated areas
- Carrying a concealed weapon in violation of Florida Statutes Sections 790.01 and 790.06
- Physically assaulting any library user or staff
- Consuming alcohol or illicit substances
- Exhibiting threatening or intimidating behavior including voyeurism, exhibitionism and stalking
- Using abusive, lewd or obscene language toward any library user or staff
- Stealing library property or personal property of library users or staff
- Engaging in disorderly conduct, unreasonably disturbing or offending library users or staff

FAILURE TO EXHIBIT APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR AS SET FORTH IN THIS CODE WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM THE LIBRARY AND, IF NECESSARY, CALLING THE POLICE.

Approved by Resolution # 104-09