

Winona Public Library Code of Conduct Policy

The Winona Public Library works to maintain a comfortable and inviting environment for all library users. Library users have the right to read, study, write and reflect in a calm, safe environment without disruptions from other patrons. In order to protect these rights as much as possible the Library staff will enforce the following policies regarding:

Patron Behavior

Behaviors which are not allowed include:

- Illegal activities or behaviors
 - Harassment of, or interference with, other patrons or library staff
 - Loud or abusive talking – particularly profanity
 - Excessive or loud socializing
 - Conditions or activities that disturb others
 - Misuse or damage of library property
 - Eating in the library (beverages are allowed if covered)
 - Use of alcoholic beverages or any illegal drug
 - Tobacco use
 - Rollerblading or skateboarding, including on the grounds
 - Running or horseplay in the building
- Shirts and shoes must be worn at all times. Attire must not display images or text that is offensive in nature.
 - Only service animals are allowed in the library.
 - Electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, etc.) should be used in a respectful manner (silence ringer, use headphones, etc.)
 - Content displayed on screens of all personal devices in the library are subject to the library's wireless, computer and internet use policies.

Unattended Children

The library and its staff members cannot take responsibility and do not have the authority to care for or supervise children in the library. Therefore, the following policy applies:

- Children under the age of 8 must be supervised by a parent or responsible caregiver at all times. If a child this age is found unattended, staff will attempt to locate the parent/caregiver and inform him/her of the rules. If the parent/caregiver can not be located, or the child is found unattended again, law enforcement will be called for assistance.
- Children the age of 8 or older may be left unattended, at the discretion of the parent/caregiver. However, children this age and older are held to the same standards of behavior as all patrons, and may be asked to leave the library if they persist in inappropriate behavior. **IF A CHILD IN THIS AGE GROUP IS NOT ABLE TO LEAVE THE LIBRARY WITHOUT AN ADULT, HE/SHE SHOULD NOT BE IN THE LIBRARY ALONE.**

Noncompliance with the Code of Conduct

Patrons in violation of these policies will be given a verbal warning. Continuing violation will result in being asked to leave the library. Refusal to leave will result in law enforcement being called.