



## Rules of Behavior Including Disruptive and Illegal Behavior

Adopted May 18, 2023

**Purpose:** Everyone has a right to expect and receive quality library service at the Grand Marais Public Library from a friendly and helpful staff. Each patron has the right to receive that service in an atmosphere that is calm, safe and as free from disturbance as possible. The staff has the right to provide service without fear of abuse or threatening behavior from patrons using the library. The Rules of Behavior policy aims to maintain a welcoming, comfortable library environment.

**Conditions:** Disruptive and illegal behavior is not permitted in the library or on its grounds. This includes, but is not limited to, the following conditions.

Careful use of library materials is required. Library furniture and other equipment must be used in the designated places. Damage to library property is prohibited under Minnesota Statute § 609.541.

Causing a nuisance as defined in Minnesota Statute § 561.01 is prohibited. A nuisance is anything that is:

- Harmful to the health of a person, or
- Offensive to the senses of a person, or
- An obstruction to the free and unrestricted use and enjoyment of the library property by other persons. This includes disruptive noise.

Harassing language or behavior and stalking as described in Minnesota Statute § 609.749 is not permitted. This includes actions taken to intimidate others, cause them mental and emotional distress, or disrupt their ability to concentrate on tasks.

Disorderly conduct as defined in Minnesota Statute § 609.72 is not permitted. Disorderly conduct involves acting in a way known to breach the peace, from disturbing assemblies to engaging in offensive, obscene, abusive, boisterous, or noisy conduct or language in a way that arouses alarm, anger or resentment in others.

A dangerous weapon is described in Minnesota Statute § 609.02, Subd. 6 as any firearm, loaded or unloaded, or any device designed as a weapon and capable of producing death or bodily harm. It includes fire, combustible or flammable liquids, and any other devices that are calculated to produce death or bodily harm. Using, or displaying a dangerous weapon to provoke, intimidate, or threaten others is not permitted. Dangerous weapons that represent a safety hazard in the library are not permitted.

Examples of disruptive and illegal behaviors not permitted in the library or its grounds include but are not limited to:



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Grand Marais, MN 55604-0280  
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- Use or possession of alcohol or controlled substance.
- Smoking and vaping are not allowed within the library or where “no smoking” signs are posted outside of the building.
- Eating is allowed in designated areas of the library only.
- Beverages with lids are allowed inside the library.
- Solicitation.
- Video-recording, campaigning, petitioning, interviewing, or surveying without permission.
- Young children must, at all times, be accompanied and supervised by an adult. Grand Marais Public Library staff is not responsible for the care, safety, or supervision of children.
- The library cannot assume parental or guardian responsibilities or oversight for vulnerable adults while in the library. A parent, foster parent, legal guardian or caregiver is responsible for monitoring the activities and managing the behavior of vulnerable adults during their visit.
- Only Seeing Eye dogs and other service animals are allowed in the library.
- The public is not permitted behind the customer service desks or in other non-public areas.
- Abnormal, erratic behavior that hinders normal library use.
- Running, chasing, horseplay, skateboarding, rollerblading.
- Pushing, hitting, fighting, biting.
- Throwing books or other objects.
- Vandalizing library property.
- Screaming, shouting, yelling.
- Continued or frequent loud talking, laughing or other noise.
- Prolonged crying or temper tantrums
- Bullying or bothering other people.
- Foul, rude, threatening or abusive language and actions.
- Using or displaying any object including a dangerous weapon to provoke, intimidate, or threaten others.
- Assault.
- Sexual activity.
- Sexual molestation of minors.
- Indecent exposure.
- Theft of another patron’s property.
- Violating City Ordinances or State Statutes.
- Using false identification.
- Removing library materials from the library without checking them out.
- Personal hygiene that disrupts others’ use of library facility.



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### **If the conditions of library use are not met:**

Violation of the above policies may result in a warning, a request to leave the premises, an escort out of the library, and notification of the police. Persons causing a nuisance may have their privileges to use all Grand Marais Public Library facilities and grounds immediately revoked. Repeat offenders or persons ordered from the premises who do not comply may be subject to arrest and prosecution for trespassing. The Grand Marais Public Library seeks to both protect the rights of individual customers to use the library as well as the rights of all patrons and staff to have safe and positive access to library materials, services, and its building.

When the disruptive patron is a child, the following applies.

Parents/caregivers are responsible for the behavior of their children while in the library. If a parent/caregiver refuses to control a child, they will be asked to leave.

If a parent/caregiver cannot be located in the library, the staff are to attempt to contact them by phone. If such individual cannot be reached or cannot come to pick up the child, law enforcement will be called to escort the child out of the library. Unattended children over the age of twelve are to be asked to leave and escorted to the door. Action by the staff may vary depending on the maturity of the child, the time of day, weather conditions, or type of behavior problem involved.

The Grand Marais Public Library Board reviews all policies every five years or as deemed necessary.