

SYRACUSE PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIBRARY PUBLIC SPACE USE POLICY

The public areas of the Syracuse Public Library (the "Library"), both indoor facilities and grounds, including public sidewalks, are a limited public forum. As such, the Library may create reasonable rules and regulations to maintain the proper use of its property, yet must do so within lawful boundaries. The following policy is for the express purpose of maintaining orderly management and control of all Library public spaces to create safe, respectful, and appropriate environment for all.

DESCRIPTION

The Library's public spaces include the meeting room, the patios in the front of the library, the staff parking lot behind the library, and the Community Roots Park and Pavilion.

PRIORITY OF USE

The Library reserves the reasonable use of its facilities. Priority will be given to library programs, functions, and events.

OPEN HOURS

Patios and Community Roots Park and Pavilion are open for public use from dawn until dusk. As stated above, the Library has priority for use. These areas may not be reserved by non-library groups for events or programs, and the library reserves the right to close these areas to the public at any time.

MEETING ROOM

The library's meeting room is the only large public indoor space for use by the library and is heavily used for that purpose, therefore, the meeting room may be used only for library programs and library sponsored functions.

PARKING LOT

The staff parking lot is reserved for library staff from 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Monday through Friday, and 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM on Saturday. The public may use the parking lot at other times. No overnight parking is permitted.

CONDUCT

The Library's Behavior Policy applies to all of the Library's public spaces. Users will use the Library's property only for lawful purposes and in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, or ordinances, including Library Policies. The Library shall not be responsible for any personal injuries or property loss during use. Any activity which interferes with the rights of any person, or which could result in physical or emotional injury to oneself or others; or which could result in damage to the facility or property is considered disruptive behavior. Disruptive Behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Abuse or vandalism of library facilities or property
- Abusive or obscene language
- Physical, verbal, or sexual harassment
- Possession or use of alcohol or illegal drugs
- Smoking
- Illegal activity
- Excessive noise or other disturbance.
- Solicitation
- Refusing to comply with reasonable requests of the library staff.
- Signs other than those produced by the Library are not permitted.
- Animals are not allowed in the Community Roots Park with the exception of Service Animals.
- Camping or overnight parking on Library property are not permitted.
- Outdoor Furniture may not be moved without permission.

ENFORCEMENT AND SURVEILLANCE

The library reserves the right to require anyone who violates these rules of conduct to leave the premises. Unlawful activity will be reported to the police and may be subject to arrest or legal action. The public spaces of the Syracuse Public Library are under 24 hour security camera surveillance. Footage from the security cameras may be used by law enforcement to aid in the apprehension of those participating in unlawful activity.

Approved by the Library Board of Trustees on July 17, 2023