

8 Route 129 | Loudon, NH 03307 | MaxfieldLibrary.com | (603)798-5153

Patron Behavior Policy

Maxfield Public Library is a “limited public forum” created for the specific purpose of providing public access to materials and resources. To ensure that all people who use and work at the library can do so in a comfortable and safe environment, patrons visiting or using the library’s facilities or services must comply with the Patron Behavior Policy. This policy was drafted to ensure that the library is used for the general purposes for which it is intended.

Maxfield Public Library will uphold all federal laws, state laws, and local ordinances in regard to public behavior.

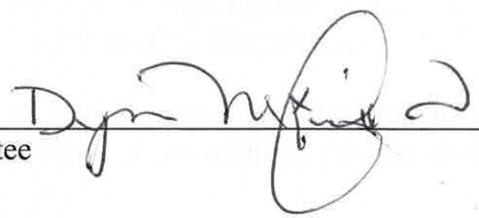
- No one may interfere with another person’s right to use the library or with the library staff’s performance of their duties.
- Patrons may not engage in loud conversations or noisy activities, including listening to music, playing games, or watching videos on a personal or library device without headphones.
- Quiet, responsible cell phone use is required so that others are not disturbed. Cell phones may not be used on speaker mode.
- All patrons must wear clothing, including shirts and shoes, while in the building.
- Parents are responsible for the behavior and supervision of their children. Children under the age of eleven may not be left in the library without a caregiver. See the Safe Child Policy for further information.
- Persons of any age needing continuous supervision or assistance must be accompanied by the appropriate supervisor or caregiver when visiting the library.
- Threatening the safety or rights of another person, including but not limited to, violent or disorderly behavior, threats of violence, and the use of abusive language is prohibited.
- Possessing, brandishing, or using weapons of any kind is prohibited, except as permitted by state law.
- Patrons are responsible for their personal property. Personal items may not be left unattended.
- Bicycles, roller blades, skateboards, scooters, or similar equipment may not be used in the building. Bicycles and scooters should be left in the rack located near the main entrance.
- Being under the influence of or in possession of alcohol or illegal drugs is prohibited.
- Smoking or vaping anywhere on library property is prohibited, including gardens, lawns, walkways, or the parking lot.

- Public bathrooms are meant for one person at a time unless a parent is accompanying their young child or a caregiver is accompanying a charge.
- Posting or distributing materials that are not library-related is permitted only with staff approval. Materials for posting may be submitted to library staff, who will post them on the community bulletin boards in accordance with the Bulletin Board Procedure
- Elevator use is restricted to adults or children accompanied by adults. See the Elevator Policy for further information.
- Sleeping or appearing to sleep inside the library is prohibited. This rule does not apply to infants and toddlers.
- Use of the Children's Room is limited to youth related business, such as visiting with a child, browsing for children's materials, or speaking with the Youth Services team. Adults that are not in the Children's Room for a youth related reason will be asked to use a different area of the library.
- Defacing or otherwise damaging library property is prohibited. This includes graffiti anywhere on library property.
- Loud, unruly behavior such as running, yelling, pushing, shoving, spitting, throwing objects, or using furniture in inappropriate or unsafe ways is prohibited.

Consequences of Policy Violation

Enforcement of these rules may take the form of any of the following actions, depending on the severity of the violation, which will be determined by the staff on duty at the time.

- Patrons who violate this policy will be given one verbal warning and asked to behave in an appropriate manner. Patrons who do not modify their behavior after one warning may be asked to leave for the rest of the day.
- Patrons who violate this policy in a manner that staff judge is "extreme" may be ordered to leave the building immediately and may be requested not to return for the remainder of the day. "Extreme" violations may include activities that are harassing, threatening, dangerous, or destructive to persons or property at the library premises.
- If necessary, the staff may call the Loudon Police Department for assistance.
- Patrons whose behavior is significantly disruptive of the library's mission, either because of repeated violations of this policy, or because of a single extreme event which is dangerous, threatening, harassing, or destructive to persons or property, may have their library privileges revoked, including a prohibition against entering the library, for a period of up to one year. The length of the revocation will depend on the nature of the violation, the extent of damage and disruption caused by policy infractions, and other relevant circumstances.

Trustee 

Date 3/2/26

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Trustee

[Signature]

Trustee

3/2/2026

Date

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Date

Approved 2026