

RULES OF CONDUCT

Welcome to the Chula Vista Public Library. The Library's first priority is public service. Every day, people visit the Chula Vista Public Library to read, select materials, use electronic resources, attend programs and request information from staff.

The Rules of Conduct are established so that Library users and staff have a clean, pleasant and safe environment, conducive to utilizing the Library for its intended purposes. We need your cooperation to reach this goal.

Failure to follow the Rules of Conduct may result in the following consequences: request to change the behavior or leave the library, suspension of library privileges, or intervention by law enforcement.

THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED AT THE CHULA VISTA PUBLIC LIBRARY:

1. Engaging in any activity prohibited by law.
2. Disruptive or unsafe behavior including interfering with library employees in the performance of their duties, obstructing or intimidating patrons of the library, or entering non-public areas without authorization (California Penal Code Section 602.1(b)).
3. Use of loud, abusive, threatening or insulting language.
4. Sexual misconduct such as exposure, or unwanted, inappropriate, or threatening touching.
5. Activities or behavior that may result in injury or harm to any Library patron or staff member, including challenging another person to fight or engage in any fight. Weapons of any kind are prohibited on Library property.
6. Patrons with hygiene conditions, including, but not limited to, clothing odor, body odor, and lice, that interfere with the use and enjoyment of the Library by other Library patrons or with the functioning of Library staff.
7. Activities or behavior that may result in damage to Library property, including making any attempts to damage computer equipment or alter software configurations.
8. Eating, drinking or displaying open food or liquid containers, except in areas designated for those purposes and/or when served with prior approval of Library staff.
9. Sleeping, smoking, vaping, or misuse of Library restrooms water fountains (including bathing, shaving, and changing or washing clothes), or other Library facilities.
10. Animals, except for service dogs specifically trained to aid a person with a disability in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (Titles II and III).
11. Bicycles, shopping carts, or other large wheeled conveyances (which exceed the dimensions of 24" x 16" x 10") are not permitted inside library buildings. Wheelchairs and strollers are only permitted if being used for the transport of an adult or child. Skates, skateboards, and collapsible scooters must be carried while on library premises.
12. Petitioning, soliciting or distributing/selling merchandise without the express permission of the City Librarian.
13. Staring at, or following, a patron or staff in a manner that reasonably can be expected to disturb him or her, including photographing or filming persons without prior approval from the persons being photographed or filmed, and the Library Branch Manager or designee.
14. Monopolizing library space, seating, tables, stairways or equipment to the exclusion of other patrons or staff, or obstructing aisles or doorways with personal belongings.

IN ADDITION:

15. Patrons using the Chula Vista Public Library shall be engaged in activities associated with the use of a public library. These activities include: reading, studying, writing, quiet contemplation, or using Library materials, in a quiet manner that does not disrupt other patrons, or interfere with Library staff's ability to perform their duties.
16. Unaccompanied young children should not be in the adult areas. Groups escorted by leaders must not disperse or be left unsupervised. Only children and the adults who accompany them may use seating designated for children.
17. A calm or low noise level is desirable in the library. Quiet will be maintained in the "Quiet Areas" and talking on cell phones is not permitted in these areas; cell phones should be set on vibrate mode, low volume or turned off. If using a cell phone outside of the Quiet Areas, headsets or low voices must be used. Electronic games, laptops, iPads, etc. should be muted or used with headsets.
18. Children shall be supervised at all times. The Library is not responsible for children who are left unattended in or on the grounds of the Library. Misconduct or misuse of Library property on the part of juveniles will be reported to their parents, or other supervising adults.
19. The Library is not responsible for personal items that are lost, stolen or damaged in or on the grounds of the Library.
20. Patrons shall wear shoes and shirts, covering the upper and lower torso of their bodies, while in the Library.

ENFORCEMENT:

The above enumerated rules are not intended to be a complete list of violations, but are intended for guidance only. Library staff and/or local law enforcement officers are authorized to expel persons who fail to comply with these Rules, or other applicable laws or regulations.

The Chula Vista Public Library reserves the right to restrict the use of its facilities and premises to persons who do not abide by the Library's Rules of Conduct. Failure to comply with the Library's established rules and policies could result in expulsion from the Library, revocation of Library privileges, or in arrest and prosecution.

Any person whose privileges have been denied or revoked for more than 30 days shall have a right to appeal to the City Librarian. Except for violations of Rule 1, enforcement will be held in abeyance pending the appeal. The appeal must be in writing and filed with the City Clerk within seven (7) calendar days of the date that the patron is notified that the patron's privileges have been denied or revoked. The decision of the City Librarian shall be final and conclusive.

Effective Date: April 16, 2018 (Approved by Board of Library Trustees: February 21, 2018)