

TEMPORARY LIBRARY RULES OF BEHAVIOR – COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Phase One Re-Opening Period

During the period of recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Oshkosh Public Library must adopt a set of rules for behavior that are different from those in normal times. The following rules are in effect during the period of the library's Phase One Re-Opening Plan.

Implementation of this plan and application of these rules will begin no earlier than June 8, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. and continue until such time as they are altered, under the authority of the Oshkosh Public Library Board of Trustees as provided for in Chapter 43.58(4) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Library Board judges that it is neither safe nor prudent to welcome everyone to use its building and collections, as is the policy during normal times.

These Temporary Rules of Behavior are designed to ensure the safety of the general public, the library's employees, and all others who work in the library building (including employees of the Winnefox Library System; the Winnebago Area Literacy Council; and those of private cleaning and other contractors). The rules are also designed to ensure respect for all people who seek to use library resources.

During the period of the Library's COVID-19 Phase One Re-Opening Plan implementation, the following conduct, behavior and acts are prohibited in the building:

1. Entering the library building without a scheduled appointment.
2. Entering the library building unaccompanied by a member of the Library's Information Services Department Staff, or by another authorized member of the Library staff.
3. Moving, unaccompanied by an authorized Library employee, outside of the designated area of public service, defined as the central area of the Library's Second Floor Information Services Department where are located the Reference Desk, socially distanced public Internet computers, printer, photocopier, fax machine, digital device battery charging station, and elevator to the first floor. One person at a time may also use one of the public restrooms on the Library's First Floor. **ALL OTHER AREAS OF THE LIBRARY ARE OFF LIMITS TO THE PUBLIC AT THIS TIME.**

The Library’s established rules of behavior – still in force during the COVID-19 Phase One Re-Opening Plan implementation period – prohibit the following conduct, behavior and acts in the Library building:

1. Rowdy or unsafe activity.
2. Loud noises, loud talking or inappropriate language.
3. Not wearing shoes or a shirt.
4. Blocking any entrance or fire exit.
5. Bringing pets into the building.
6. Leaving children under the age of 8 unattended without direct supervision.
7. Using tobacco.
8. Possessing alcoholic beverages.
9. Sleeping.
10. Panhandling, or selling goods or services.
11. Unauthorized distribution of materials or gathering signatures for petitions.
12. Leaving the library with library materials that have not been checked out.
13. Damaging library materials, equipment, furniture, facilities or property.
14. Inappropriate public display of affection.

Illegal activities will be reported to the police.

Behavior which violates the rules, interferes with the use of the library by others, or interferes with the staff or volunteers in the conduct of their duties is not permitted. Persons behaving in such a manner will be asked to stop the behavior by staff. If the behavior persists, the individual(s) will be asked to leave the building and/or the police may be called and/or library privileges suspended. Individuals may be asked to present identification.

Written By:	Jeff Gilderson-Duwe
Approved By:	Library Board
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