



## West Seneca Public Library Rules of Conduct

The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library (B&ECPL) serves as a center for information, education and entertainment. Under Article 5, Section 262 of New York State Education Law, the Board of Trustees of the West Seneca Public Library has adopted the following rules to ensure a safe and welcoming environment for all patrons.

The following conduct is prohibited:

1. Engaging in disorderly conduct, fighting, challenging another person to fight or provoking others to violence;
2. Disturbing other patrons, staff or volunteers; interfering with staff or volunteers in the performance of their duties; blocking or impairing another's passage; persistent, unwelcome attention, such as staring at or following another person; or making any obscene or threatening gesture;
3. Carrying weapons of any kind;
4. Possessing, distributing or consuming alcohol or illegal drugs or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs;
5. Engaging in sexual conduct, lewd behavior (e.g., exposure or inappropriate touching) or sexual harassment of another patron, staff member or volunteer;
6. Engaging in conduct in violation of the B&ECPL Equal Employment Opportunity and Anti-Harassment Policy;
7. Damaging, destroying, or stealing any Library property or the property of another patron, staff member or volunteer;
8. Bringing animals or pets into the library except those required to assist persons with disabilities or those involved in library programs;
9. Selling, soliciting, canvassing or petitioning without approval by the Library;
10. Distributing or posting materials or literature that have not been approved by the Library;
11. Vaping, smoking or otherwise using tobacco or marijuana products inside of the Library or within 100 feet of any entrances, exits or outdoor areas of the West Seneca Public Library (in accordance with New York State Public Health Law Section 1399-O).
12. Eating or drinking in designated restricted areas; (Note: eating is not permitted in the library, covered beverages are acceptable)
13. Making unreasonable use of the restrooms, including bathing;
14. Sleeping or lying down in the library;
15. Photography or recording of library patrons without their permission; and,
16. Entering the library without appropriate clothing, including a shirt and shoes.

No children under six years of age may be left unattended in the library at any time. Library staff will not be responsible for children who have been left without adult supervision. Adult patrons who are not engaged in library activities that require materials from the children's area shall be asked to relocate to other areas of the library. The staff reserves the right to seek the intervention of appropriate law enforcement or social services agencies, as required by individual circumstances.

People who violate these rules will be advised of their infraction(s). Failure to comply with the Library's established policies, rules and regulations or violations of local, state or federal law may result in immediate suspension of library privileges, including removal from library property, and/or, where necessary, civil liability and/or criminal prosecution.

**Adopted by West Seneca Public Library Board of Trustees December 12, 2018. Confirmed January 16, 2019. Amended June 26, 2019 and confirmed July 22, 2019. Reviewed and re-approved on July 21, 2021. Amended and re-approved May 18, 2022. Amended and re-approved September 21, 2022.**