

Patron Rights and Responsibilities

Patron Rights and Responsibilities have been established to help maintain an atmosphere that promotes the use and enjoyment of La Crosse Public Library facilities and resources; provide a safe environment for the general public, staff and library property; and create a welcoming environment for all.

The library has high-definition security cameras and employs a Security Officer to help staff maintain a comfortable and safe environment.

1. Non-alcoholic beverages are permitted in the library. Light snacks that do not create an odor or mess are also permitted. Delivery of food items is not permitted.
2. Use of tobacco products is prohibited throughout the buildings and the outdoor campuses.
3. Those who steal, damage, or deface library materials or property may be prosecuted. Parents are liable for any damage done by children under the age of 18.
4. Patrons are required to comply with the library's policies and procedures for computer use and the Internet.
5. Improper use of library restrooms including, but not limited to, bathing, shaving, hair trimming and clothes laundering, are prohibited.
6. Blocking entryways, lobbies, staircases or aisles is prohibited. Disruptive groups congregating inside or outside the library will be asked to disperse.
7. Bicycles may not be parked in the lobbies or in front of entryways. Please use bike racks provided. The library has bike locks to check out if you have forgotten yours.
8. Backpacks and large packages must be kept out of pathways. Equipment such as skateboards, inline skates, etc., may be carried in, but may not be used in the library.
9. Rolling carts and large garbage bags with personal items are prohibited. Staff cannot hold or watch personal items. Personal items unattended for more than 30 minutes will be taken to the lost and found.
10. Threatening, harassing or intimidating language or behavior toward staff or other patrons will result in immediate expulsion and possible legal action.
11. Parents and caregivers are responsible for the safety, behavior and supervision of their children at all times. Library policy states that children under the age of 8 must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times.
12. School-aged children who are sick, expelled or suspended should not be in the library during school hours. A truancy officer will be consulted if truancy is suspected.
13. Be awake and look awake when you are in the library. The library is not a place to recover from illness or injury.
14. Creating a disturbance by making noise, talking loudly, whistling, singing, using profanity, running, fighting, or engaging in other disruptive conduct is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, stalking, staring or following another with the intent to annoy, or intentionally behaving in a manner that could reasonably be expected to annoy or disturb other customers or staff.
15. Headphones must be used at all times when listening to laptops, or other personal devices.

16. Shirts and shoes must be worn at all times. Offensive body odor or extremely strong fragrance that draws negative attention and comment of other patrons and reasonably interferes with library use or ability of staff to work comfortably, is prohibited.
17. Mobile devices should be set to vibrate or turned off before entering the library. Brief, quiet phone calls are permitted. Extended calls that might disturb other patrons should be moved to more isolated areas.
18. Viewing of pornography on library equipment or personal devices is prohibited.
19. This is not an exhaustive list. Basically, be a good citizen, practice kindness, follow local statutes, use common sense and all will be well!

Behavior which violates library policy, interferes with the use of the library by others or interferes with staff in the conduct of their duties is not permitted. Individuals engaging in such behavior will be asked to stop the behavior and/or may be asked to leave the building. If warranted, police may be called and/or library privileges may be revoked. Unlawful activities will be promptly reported to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Staff and Security Officers are authorized to require a person to leave the library if, in their judgment, the patron's behavior is disorderly or disruptive. Repeated such behavior will result in revocation of library privileges from a period of one week to indefinitely. The patron may make an appeal, in writing, to the library director.

Patrons are expected to cooperate with library staff and Security Officers who must interpret and apply rules and policies. Upon request, patrons are required to provide their correct name or show their library card or other ID to library staff or Security Officer and leave the premises when so directed.

Your entrance to the library indicates that you are willing and able to act courteously toward your fellow citizens, treat public property with respect, and abide by all library rules.