

## PATRON RESPONSIBILITIES AND CONDUCT

Last updated: 01.18.24

Massanutten Regional Library (MRL) is supported by taxes of the people of Rockingham County, Page County, and the City of Harrisonburg, and the Commonwealth of Virginia. The people expect each of our facilities to be a clean, comfortable, and safe place for reading, research, study, meetings, and leisure. Everyone has an equal right to access library services and facilities; no person has the right to interfere with the ability of others to use and enjoy these resources, facilities, and services.

**To this end, MRL has established rules and guidelines of conduct to protect the rights, comfort and safety of MRL patrons, volunteers, and staff, and to preserve and protect MRL's materials, equipment, facilities, and grounds. The following list includes, but is not limited to, examples of conduct not allowed on MRL property:**

1. Any activity in violation of federal, state, or local law, or MRL policy
2. Carrying firearms and dangerous weapons, unless in accordance with Virginia Code 18.2-308
3. Being under the influence of alcohol/illegal drugs or selling, using, or possession of alcohol/illegal drugs
4. Verbally or physically threatening or harassing other patrons, volunteers, or staff, including running, fighting, stalking, staring, touching, using offensive and/or boisterous language, and engaging in lewd or indecent behavior
5. Stealing, damaging, altering, or inappropriate use of MRL property in MRL facilities or on MRL grounds
6. Trespassing in non-public areas or presence in the Library without permission of an authorized MRL employee before or after operating hours
7. Using cell phones, pagers, or other audio devices in a manner that disturbs other visitors; cell phone and pager audible ringers must be turned off in the Library
8. Soliciting or conducting surveys not authorized by MRL
9. Using restrooms for bathing, shampooing, or doing laundry
10. Using tobacco or nicotine products in any form, including electronic cigarettes or vaping devices
11. Lying down or sleeping on any floor, table, or seat in the Library
12. Consuming food in public areas of the Library, including restrooms, unless authorized by the Library Director or Branch Manager or for special library events

13. Bringing pets or animals, other than service animals required for disabilities, into the Library, except as authorized by the Library Director or Branch Manager
14. Entering the Library barefooted, without a shirt, or with offensive body odor or personal hygiene so as to be disruptive to the library environment
15. Personal photography and videography that disrupts operations or invades the privacy of patrons, including patrons' reading, research, browsing activity, and/or computer usage
16. Any behavior that disrupts or hinders public use of the Library

All bags and other articles are subject to inspection by authorized MRL personnel. MRL reserves the right to limit the size and number of items brought into the Library.

**MRL staff members have the authority to intervene to stop prohibited activities and behaviors. Failure to comply with MRL's established standards of acceptable behavior may result in one's removal from the building and/or restriction of Library privileges.**