

City of Rancho Mirage Public Library

Library Use Policy

The Rancho Mirage Public Library is open to all members of the public without restriction. Patrons may remain in the Library as long as necessary or appropriate to use the services, materials or facilities for reading, studying, attending programs and obtaining information. However, patrons may be directed to leave the Library with or without advance warning, when their behavior disrupts other patrons, interferes with the staff's ability to perform their duties, threatens the safety of patrons or staff, or it is inconsistent with library purposes.

Generally:

1. **Personal Items**

For security reasons, the Library reserves the right to limit the size and number of personal items brought into the building; personal items such as backpacks, bags, boxes and other containers may not be left unattended.

2. **Child Supervision**

Children must be properly supervised; children under the age of eight must be accompanied at all times by a responsible caregiver 14 years of age or older; no child may be left unattended after closing time.

3. **Children's Room**

The Children's Room is intended to be used by children and adults accompanying children or those legitimately working with children's materials.

4. **Conduct**

A. The following behavior is illustrative of conduct which, as a general rule, will warrant a request for compliance prior to a direction to leave the facility:

- (i) Eating and drinking inside the Library proper, outside the coffee bar area or other areas approved by prior arrangement; beverages are only permitted in the Library proper when in containers with secure lids;
- (ii) Creating unreasonably loud noise such as loud talking or operation of radios or other amplifying equipment;

- (iii) Wearing cleats, skates, roller blades or other items that could damage the facility;
 - (iv) Bringing bicycles or other wheeled devices, other than baby carriages, walkers and manual or motorized wheelchairs into the Library or securing them to anything other than a designated bicycle storage rack;
 - (v) Unreasonably interfering with another patron's use of library facilities or staff's ability to perform its duties;
 - (vi) Soliciting or collecting funds or donations (except for staff's collection of overdue fines, fees, proceeds of book sales, rentals, and library donations) not associated with an official Library or City of Rancho Mirage event or activity;
 - (vii) Bringing animals into the Library, other than those animals assisting the disabled, is prohibited. However, acknowledging extreme desert temperatures associated with animals left in vehicles even briefly, the Library will consider exceptions if the animal is contained in a carrier or carried by its owner at all times while in the building; such exceptions shall only be for a limited period of time, for example, long enough for the owner to drop off materials, or pick up materials on hold;
 - (viii) Using roller skates, roller blades or skateboards on Library property;
 - (ix) Entering the Library without shoes or shirts and/or proper attire covering the area below the waist; and
 - (x) Entering non-public areas such as the staff workroom/areas without staff authorization.
- B. The following behavior is illustrative of conduct which will warrant an immediate order to leave the facility:
- (i) Physically interfering with patrons' or staff's use of the Library;
 - (ii) Engaging in behavior that is prohibited by law;
 - (iii) Threatening or using abusive language or gestures directed towards patrons or staff;
 - (iv) Emitting certain odors (due to lack of proper personal hygiene or extensive application of body fragrances) that cause nuisance

conditions that interferes with a reasonable patron's peaceful enjoyment or use of the Library's facilities or materials, or interferes with staff's ability to properly and adequately perform its duties without annoyance caused by nuisance body odors; and

- (v) Failing to comply with any warning or request to change or cease certain proscribed conduct.

Adopted by the Library Board of Directors, December 15, 2005