

Library Behavior

The G.E. Bleskacek Family Memorial Library welcomes all library users and requires all users and staff to respect each other, show kindness, and behave appropriately.

This policy has been established to promote the use of the library's resources, protect the safety of patrons, staff, and property, and create a welcoming environment for all.

Be Safe:

- Threatening, harassing, abusive, or intimidating language or behavior will result in immediate expulsion from the library and possible legal action.
- Parents and caregivers are responsible for the behavior, safety, and supervision of their children at all times. Children under 10 must be supervised by a responsible caregiver at all times.
- Blocking the aisles, walkways, entryways, or staircase is prohibited. Disruptive groups congregating inside or outside the library will be required to disperse.
- Bicycles may not interfere with entering or exiting the library, and they should be parked in the bicycle racks when available.
- Items carried into the library, such as backpacks or other personal belongings, must be stored out of pathways; or on the coat racks near the restrooms.
- Athletic equipment such as skateboards, balls, or in-line skates may be carried into the library and stored in the entryway. They may not be used in the library.
- Animals, other than service animals, are not permitted in the library, unless as a part of a program authorized by the library director.
- Patrons sleeping in the library will be awakened by library staff. Sleeping in the library is prohibited.
- Patrons shall not carry or possess a weapon in an open or concealed manner unless authorized by law. Weapon means a handgun, an electronic weapon as defined under Wis. Stats. §941.295, or a knife as defined under Wis. Stats. §941.24.

Be Respectful:

- Creating a disturbance by making noise, talking loudly, whistling, singing, using profanity, running, stalking, throwing items, or engaging in other disruptive conduct is prohibited.
- Using personal electronic equipment in a manner that could reasonably be expected to annoy or disturb other patrons or staff is prohibited.
- Patrons should limit themselves to short, quiet phone calls whenever possible. Callers that disrupt other patrons will be asked to take their conversations outside.

- For safety reasons appropriate clothing and shoes must be worn in the library.

Be Responsible:

- Consumption of food and non-alcoholic beverages in a covered container is permitted so long as it is not near computers and patrons discard trash in appropriate containers, report spills to staff, and leave all areas clean for use by others.
- Use of all tobacco, smoking, or vaping products, including e-cigarettes, are prohibited throughout the library building and on library property.
- Those who steal, damage, or deface library materials or property will be prosecuted. Parents are liable for damage done by a child under age eighteen.
- Patrons are required to comply with the library's policies and procedures on computer and internet use. See our Internet Use Policy for complete guidelines.

Disruptive Behavior in the Library

Everyone has the right to use library resources provided their behavior does not unreasonably interfere with the rights of others to do the same. No soliciting is permitted in the library or on library property, only Library and Friends of the Library fundraising activities are allowed.

Any 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. Patrons engaging in such behavior may be asked to stop the behavior and/or may be asked to leave the building. The library reserves the right to revoke or suspend library privileges. Unlawful activities will promptly be reported to the police.

Patrons shall cooperate with staff who must interpret and apply rules and policies. Upon request, patrons shall be required to provide their correct name or show their library card or other identification to library staff and leave the premises when so directed.

Unattended Children in the Library

The library encourages children and families to use its facilities and services while also making the library a welcoming environment for everyone.

The Library is concerned for the safety of children in and around library facilities, however, library staff does not act in the place of parents. Caregivers and parents are responsible for the care, supervision, and control of children to prevent victimization, and ensure their health, safety, and welfare.

Library employees do not function as caregivers or babysitters. The Library is not equipped, nor is it the library's role to provide childcare. The Library assumes neither responsibility nor liability for actions, care, supervision or safety of minors.

- Parents and caregivers are responsible for the behavior, safety, and supervision of their children whether the parent or caregiver is present or not.

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- Children ages 10 and older may be in the library unattended for a period of time not to exceed 2 hours, provided that their behavior is not disruptive to others.
- If a child exhibits disruptive or inappropriate behavior and/or is a danger to themselves or others, they will be asked to leave. If a child appears to be ill or upset, or the child has not been met by a parent or caregiver at closing, Library Staff will attempt to contact the parent or guardian. In the event that the parent or guardian cannot be located, staff will contact the Bloomer Police Department. In the event of an emergency, staff will call 911.
- Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult or responsible person over the age of 12 while they are in the library.
- School age children may ride the school bus to the library for sponsored programs and activities, provided their parent or guardian has arranged a ride for them at the end of the program. Due to the number of children at these events, library staff are unable to manage how and with whom a child leaves the library.
- In the event that a child is not picked up from the library before closing, staff will notify local law enforcement.
- Library Staff are not permitted to transport minors.

Adults in the Children or Teen Areas

There are valid reasons for adults to use the children and teen areas of the library, including selection of books, movies, and other materials. The use of children and teen area tables for discussion, reading, or Wi-Fi access is also acceptable when other areas of the library are unavailable.

Behavior that constitutes or appears to constitute lurking, stalking, staring, harassing, or intimidating youth will not be tolerated. The staff will request the individual leave the children or teen area or the library property. Behavior that demonstrates or appears to demonstrate enticement, luring, or other predatory acts will not be tolerated. The staff will require the person to leave the property, and law enforcement may be called to ensure this occurs. Staff judgment will be the determining factor in these situations.