

Library Usage Policy

Rockwell Falls Public Library is a public facility intended to provide opportunities for lifelong learning and leisure. We offer a welcoming place for our community, and ask patrons to comply with usage rules that ensure the comfort, safety, and protection of all who use the library's materials and services.



Conduct that is disruptive, disturbing, or potentially harmful to others is prohibited, as is conduct that interferes with the enjoyment and use of the library by other patrons. This includes:

- Disorderly conduct, noise, or actions that interfere with the rights of others
- Physical abuse, sexual harassment, or threatening behavior or language of any kind
- Failure to follow the directions of library staff members
- Misuse of library materials, equipment, furnishings, or the bathroom.

Examples of Unacceptable Activities

- Engaging in loud, aggressive, or threatening conduct; fighting or challenging another to a fight; using profane language or obscene behavior; or engaging in harassing behavior of any kind.
- Sleeping, lying down, loitering, or engaging in activities that interfere with others' library use or that blocks entrances or exits
- Illegal gambling
- Using or distributing alcohol or illegal/non-prescribed drugs, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Eating or drinking in undesignated areas of the library.
- Using tobacco products or other smokable or vapeable products
- Misusing or stealing library materials, equipment, or computer resources, or tampering with computer hardware and/or software.
- Using audio equipment, including mobile devices at a volume that is audible to others.
- Engaging in any kind of sexual activity or lewd behavior, or sexually or physically harassing any other person.
- Carrying weapons of any kind.
- Soliciting in the library or on library property, including seeking donations (other than for the library); attempting to sell merchandise without prior permission; asking patrons to sign petitions; and distributing and/or posting literature that has not been approved by the library staff.
- Bringing animals, other than guide and service animals, into the library, except for designated library programming.
- Using any library resource, including its public access computers/wi-fi network, to engage in illegal activity or to injure or harass another person
- Committing any act that would violate any state, federal, or local law, ordinance, or regulation. The Rockwell Falls Public Library asks that patrons obey laws related to "Public Order" and "Criminal Mischief" (NYS Penal Law, Art. 145 and 240) and to "Injuries to Property" (NYS Education Law, Art. 264): <http://ypdcrime.com/penal.law/article145.htm>

Failure to comply with these rules can result in patrons being expelled from the library or losing library privileges, temporarily or permanently. Police will be contacted if necessary and for any illegal activities.

Use of library spaces and resources as intended

- Eating and drinking are not permitted at the computers
- With approval of the library administration, light refreshments are permitted in the library where there are tile floors.
- Seating in our library is limited and is only to be used for library purposes
- Personal items should not be left unattended. Rockwell Falls Public Library is not responsible for the theft of your items.

Use of copier/printer

All copies are charged for, except for

- Tax-filing documents to be posted via mail
- Homeschooling supporting documentation

Children

- Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian who is at least 16 years of age and is present in the library building and responsible for their children at all times.
- Children under 12 must have parental permission to apply for a library card.

Adopted 5/4/2020 | Amended 4/1/2022

Amended and approved 7/15/2025 pending approval from our Lawyer.