



# Kendallville Public Library

Providing access to information...for life.

## Patron Code of Conduct Policy

KPL Board of Trustees *Adopted November 11, 2023*

### Policy

In the interest of the comfort and safety of our patrons, the Kendallville Public Board of Trustees have established the following **Patron Code of Conduct Policy**. While on library property, patrons will:

- Engage only in activities associated with the proper use of the library
- Respect the rights of other patrons
- Behave in a non-disruptive, non-violent, and lawful manner
- Be properly attired in shirts, shoes, and bottoms; all bathing suits must be covered
- Respect library materials, equipment, furniture, and structures
- Refrain from unlawful use and/or possession of controlled substances
- Refrain from possession of fireworks and weapons (see Weapons section below)
- Refrain from an intentional display of firearms at all forums/meetings on library property
- Refrain from using any alcohol, nicotine, tobacco, or vaping products
- Supervise the behavior and safety of minors or dependent adults under their care
- Attend to personal belongings
- Refrain from bringing pets or other animals into the library without prior permission from the Executive Director; trained service animals are welcome at all times
- Use restrooms only for their intended purpose
- Use library parking areas and sidewalks safely
- Refrain from blocking entries and exits
- Leave the library at designated closing times

### WEAPONS

All items generally understood to be or commonly used or intended for use as a weapon or which, by their nature, may cause serious bodily injury are prohibited on library property, including but not limited to the following: knives (exception below), chemical sprays (exception below), tasers or electrical stun devices (exception below), billy clubs, blackjacks, num-chuks, throwing stars, pellet or BB guns, paintball guns, and dart guns. Lawfully possessed firearms are not prohibited items, in accordance with Indiana Code Section 35-47-11.1-2 (see Firearms section below).



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## CHEMICAL SPRAY

Small chemical spray devices (such as pepper spray or MACE), which are designed and intended for self-defense use, may be possessed on library premises, provided possession is done in a discrete manner (for instance, carried on a keychain or stored in a purse, pocket, bag, etc.).

## KNIVES

Pocket knives with a folding blade less than three inches (3") in length may be possessed on library premises, provided possession is done in a discrete manner (for instance, carried on a keychain or stored in a purse, pocket, bag, etc.).

## TASERS/STUN GUNS

Per Indiana Code Section 35-47-8-2 and 35-47-8-3, stun guns are handheld devices that deliver an electric shock to an assailant upon contact, and TASER devices deliver an electric shock from a distance by shooting two-pronged electrodes for the purpose of incapacitating a person.

Patrons age 18 years or older may carry a taser/stun gun on library property and in library buildings. TASERS and stun guns should never be intentionally displayed and are to be used for personal safety only. Any other purpose is prohibited. Patrons found to be in violation of this policy are subject to expulsion from library property and possible prosecution.

## FIREARMS

The intentional display of a firearm or other weapons at any and all public meetings on library property is prohibited. Possession of firearms may otherwise be exercised in compliance with state and federal law. Patrons found to be in violation of the law regarding the use or possession of firearms on library property may be immediately expelled from the library and referred to law enforcement for prosecution.

Patrons engaged in behaviors that pose a serious, imminent risk to the health or safety of others may be immediately expelled from the library without warning and with or without assistance of library security or local law enforcement.

Patrons violating this Code of Conduct Policy or other policies/regulations of the library may be required to leave the library premises and/or forfeit library privileges.

The Board of Trustees authorizes library staff and law enforcement officers to enforce this Patron Code of Conduct Policy, including by means of removal of a violator from library property, suspension of library privileges, banning from entry, and/or prosecution.