



201 Main Street, Sag Harbor, NY · 631-725-0049 · www.johnjermain.org

PATRON BEHAVIOR POLICY

Patrons are encouraged to read, study and use library materials, and to take part in programs or similar activities associated with the use of a public library. Any person not so engaged may be required to leave the library premises. Patrons are prohibited from engaging in any activity which constitutes an annoyance, disruption, distraction, or safety or health hazard to other patrons or library staff, as well as the orderly and peaceful use and enjoyment of the library and library premises such as:

Refusing to wear and/or properly wear Personal Protective Equipment such as masks, when such use is required by the library due to public health conditions;

Refusing to comply with established Social Distancing Guidelines as implemented by the Library when necessary for public safety;

Interfering with other patrons' reasonable expectation of privacy;

Interfering with Library staff's performance of their duties;

Leaving children under the age of ten (10) unattended on the premises;

Using harassing, obscene, abusive, or insulting language or gestures;

Causing a disturbance by arguing, propagandizing, or proselytizing;

Soliciting, gambling, distributing leaflets or petitions, congregating, or sleeping in the library or on library premises;

Engaging in loud or boisterous activities;

Consuming food or beverages outside of designated areas;

Smoking or vaping in the building or within a fifty-foot radius of any entrance or exit;

Skateboarding on Library premises;

Listening to music, movies, or other audio content without the use of headphones;

Improperly using Library restrooms or facilities, for prohibited activities, such as bathing, shaving, laundering;

Possessing, distributing, or consuming alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, narcotics, or controlled substances or misusing legal substances such as glue or prescription medications;

Possessing or using a dangerous weapon;

Damaging, defacing, destroying, or stealing any material, equipment, or property belonging to the library, fellow patrons or library staff;

Accessing the Library's restricted staff network and/or the proprietary data stored thereon without permission, or using the Library's public network for criminal purposes or to violate the privacy of others;

Rearranging library shelving, furnishings or furniture, or using it improperly, including sitting on or putting feet on tables, or excessive spreading of personal effects including computing devices, bags, clothing and papers;

Connecting more than two personal computing devices at any time to the Library's wireless network;

Talking on cell phones inside the library, with the exception of designated areas;

Entering the building without footwear or appropriate clothing;

Evidencing bodily hygiene so offensive as to constitute a nuisance to other persons;

Bringing any pets, with the exception of service dogs and miniature horses trained as service animals as allowed under The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) legislation.

Library personnel will enforce these rules. Patrons not complying will be asked to leave. Library personnel are authorized to contact the police to ensure compliance.

Any patron who violates the Library rules and regulations may be denied the privilege of access to the Library by the Library Board of Trustees, on recommendation of the Library Director. Any patron whose privileges have been denied may have that decision reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

For the purposes of this policy “The Library” refers to the John Jermain building and immediate premises surrounding the building, as well as its digital and offsite presence; these rules for patron behavior apply in all current and evolving settings, both physical and virtual and the Library will enforce its Patron Behavior Policy in all library designated spaces, including its social media accounts. Any patron who violates the library rules and regulations may be denied the privilege of access to the Library, its programs, and its electronic accounts by the Library Board of Trustees, on recommendation of the Library Director.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES: DECEMBER 2018
AMENDED APRIL 2020; AMENDED MAY 2020