

## Disruptive Behavior Policy

Library users have a right to assume that visits to the library will be free from harassment, physical discomfort and danger, and psychological stress. The library staff has the same rights. It shall therefore be the policy of the BHM Regional Library Board to maintain a quiet, pleasant environment conducive to serious study as well as casual use. The Board considers the following to be unacceptable behavior:

- Loud conversation or laughter which is disturbing to other users.
- Obscene or abusive language.
- Willful destruction of or damage to any library property.
- Blocking or interfering with the free movement of any person or persons.
- Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs.
- Removal of any library property from the building without authorization through established lending procedures.
- Following staff or users around the building, staring, or otherwise harassing staff and users.
- Engaging in disorderly conduct, committing a nuisance, or unreasonably disturbing and offending library users.
- Carrying weapons of any sort by any individual except law enforcement officers.
- Smoking in any library building or vehicle.
- Using radios, record players, etc., in unauthorized areas without headphones which prevent transmission of sound to others.
- Using cellular telephones inside the library.
- Bringing animals other than those certified to assist the handicapped into library.
- Soliciting or selling of any kind, unless approved by the Library Director.
- Distribution of leaflets or posting of notices in areas not authorized for this purpose.
- Use of library telephones except pay telephones designated for the public by any person other than library personnel without permission.
- Consumption of food or beverages except at meetings where permission has been obtained to serve refreshments.
- Rearranging furniture or equipment without permission.
- Displaying other behaviors inappropriate in a public library setting.

Violators of this policy will be subject to exclusion from the library premises. Criminal behavior will be prosecuted under the law.

### **NORTH CAROLINA LAWS PERTAINING TO POLICY**

- G.S. 14-33 Misdemeanor assaults, batteries and affrays.
- G.S. 14-76 Larceny, mutilation, or destruction of public records and papers.
- G.S. 14-127 Willful and wanton injury to real property.
- G.S. 14-132 Disorderly conduct in and injuries to public buildings and facilities.
- G.S. 14-134 Trespass on land after being forbidden.
- G.S. 14-190.9 Indecent exposure.
- G.S. 14-204.1 Loitering for the purpose of engaging in prostitution offense.
- G.S. 14-269 Carrying concealed weapons.
- G.S. 14-277.1 Communicating threats.
- G.S. 14-398 Theft or destruction of property of public libraries, museums, etc.
- G.S. 153A-266 Powers and duties of trustees.