

ANIMAL POLICY

The Library recognizes that some patrons may have service animals, which are trained to assist or accommodate a person with a sensory, mental, or physical disability or to perform tasks for the benefit of a disabled individual.

The Library recognizes legal rights under federal and state laws regarding use of service animals. The Library also considers the safety and health of all of its patrons, the public and library staff to be of utmost importance.

Patrons are not permitted to bring animals into the library building with the exception of the following:

- Service Animals & Service Animals in Training
 - Any person with a disability is allowed to bring their service animal into the library.
 - All service animals must be under the full custody and control of their handler at all times. Service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work. Owners must keep the service animal directly with them at all times.
 - Service animal is defined as an animal "that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with disabilities."
 - Documentation is not required, however staff may ask if an animal is a pet or a service animal required because of a disability.
 - Service animals in training are allowed in the building unless the animal constitutes an unreasonable risk of injury or harm to property or other persons.
 - Fear of allergies, annoyance on the part of other patrons or employees or fear of animals are generally not valid reasons for denying access or refusing service to people with service animals or service animals in training.
- Library Programs
 - The library may choose to offer educational programs for the public that include various animals. These animals are permitted in the library for the duration of the program.
 - Owners and/or handlers of the animals must be with them at all times.
 - Owners and/or handlers are responsible for protecting library property from damages.

Owners of pets will be asked to remove them from inside the library building or in areas outdoors if they impede anyone's access into or out of the library.