

Disruptive Behavior Policy

Use of the Library requires respect for others who are also enjoying the Library facilities and services. Certain activities are inconsistent with the mission of the Library and will not be tolerated.

For non-criminal or non-threatening behavior the disruptive patron will receive in this order (please refer to the Acceptable Use Policy):

- Oral warning
- Written warning
- Immediate dismissal
- Banning from the library

LAW ENFORCEMENT WILL BE CONTACTED AS NEEDED TO ENSURE ENFORCEMENT OF THIS POLICY.

One or all of these actions may take place in a single interaction with a disruptive patron. Any of these steps may be skipped if the situation escalates and the staff member(s) deem a different response to the disruptive behavior appropriate.

Disruptive behaviors which will result in immediate banning from the Cotuit Library building and grounds include:

- Threatening staff and/or other library patrons
- Carrying an unauthorized weapon on library grounds or library buildings.
- Destruction or theft of library property
- Using abusive language toward staff and/or other library patrons (including but not limited to profanity)
- Fighting (all parties) and any other forms of violence or threats of violence
- Dispensing chemicals or noxious substances including but not limited to pepper spray, stink bombs, smoke, and tear gas
- When it has been determined that the patron is a chronic behavior problem

Appeal of Library staff decision regarding written warnings, dismissals, and banning from the library

Name_____

Date of incident being appealed_____

Description of incident being appealed:

_____I wish to speak to the board of trustees at their next scheduled meeting

_____I wish the president of the board of trustees to read this into the record of the next scheduled meeting but do not wish to attend the meeting

Name_____

Address_____

Phone#_____Email_____

Signature_____

Please mail this form and any other documentation to:

President of the Cotuit Library Association Board
PO Box 648
Cotuit, MA 02635