



Mesa County Libraries (MCL) are dedicated to protecting the rights and safety of library patrons, volunteers, and staff. Each visitor is expected to respect the rights of others and comply with the following Code of Conduct, enabling all MCL visitors to enjoy a clean, safe, and comfortable environment for normal activities associated with the use of a public library to the maximum extent possible.

**Prohibited conduct in MCL locations and on MCL property includes:**

- Illegal acts or conduct violating governmental laws, ordinances, and regulations
- Disrupting normal operations or interfering with patrons' reasonable use and enjoyment of the libraries
- Language, gestures, or behavior that are intimidating, violent, obscene, or offensive
- Disturbing other patrons with noise from electronic devices or interpersonal communication
- Using furniture, materials, or equipment in any manner for which they were not intended
- Impeding passageways with personal property, furniture, or persons
- Possessing personal belongings more than the equivalent of 3 medium bags - 22 inches long, 14 inches wide and 9 inches high including wheels and handles. All three measurements shouldn't add up to more than 45 inches
- Leaving personal property unattended
- Theft or other attempts to convert library property to personal use
- Destroying or vandalizing library property
- Consuming food or beverages in a manner that creates an unclean environment, attracts insects or vermin, disrupts other patrons or is harmful to library resources
- Possessing, using, or being under the influence of alcohol, marijuana, or illegal drugs
- Using tobacco products or electronic smoking devices
- Bringing animals inside buildings other than ADA service animals or animals used in MCL programs
- Leaving animals unattended on MCL property
- Using another person's library card or identifying information
- Bathing, washing clothes or using restroom facilities in a way that creates a mess or prevents others from using the facilities
- Emanating offensive odors that constitute a nuisance to other persons
- Sleeping
- Soliciting
- Compromising public health and safety by not wearing a shirt and shoes
- Publicly viewing sexually explicit or pornographic images
- Possessing concealed weapons not legally permitted, or openly displaying weapons
- Adults using children's or teen areas who are not caregivers, actively browsing, or seeking assistance





- Leaving vulnerable person(s) unattended by a responsible party. A vulnerable person is defined as a person in need of special care, support, or protection because of age, mental or physical disability, frailty, ill health, or one who is susceptible to abuse or neglect because of their circumstances. Library staff are not responsible for the care of those left unattended
- Failing to comply with a reasonable staff request

**Enforcement:** Individuals who fail to observe the Code of Conduct may be asked to leave MCL buildings and property, banned from all MCL locations for a period of time, subject to arrest, or subject to other lawful action. Recurring offenses may elevate the penalty.

**Appeals:** Any patron banned from MCL for more than 12 weeks may appeal once in writing to the Library Director. An appeal must be emailed to [director@mcpld.org](mailto:director@mcpld.org) or mailed/delivered to Mesa County Libraries, Attn: Library Director, 443 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Grand Junction, CO 81501, or by speaking with the Director – call 970-683-2434 to schedule an appointment. The appeal must include the patron’s reasoning that the Code of Conduct was not violated or an explanation of why the patron cannot comply with the Code of Conduct. The Library Director will issue a written determination of the appealed matter within 45 days of receipt of the appeal.

REVIEWED AND ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 14, 2023

Alice Dow – MCPLD Board President

Mary Watson – MCPLD Board Secretary

