

The Seminole Community Library welcomes everyone to use the materials and facilities of the library. Patrons are encouraged to enjoy the atmosphere, surroundings, collection, and computerized resources. In addition, the library staff will be glad to assist you in finding the appropriate materials and in answering your questions. To assure that all may enjoy the library in a safe and hospitable environment, patrons are asked always to be mindful of others and to observe the following rules:

1. Running, disruptive game-playing, loud conversation, loud cell phone use, rough-housing, fighting, intoxication, substance abuse, exhibitionism, sexual acts, or any other conduct which disrupts library operations is prohibited.
2. The Library's computers may not be used to threaten or harass others, nor may they be used in any way that disrupts normal library operations, nor may they be used to create, view, store, transmit, or publicly display pornographic (as defined by the U.S. Supreme Court), obscene, defaming, slanderous, harassing, or offensive data (including sound, video, text, and graphics data). Library patrons must abide by the procedure established by the Library governing access to these computers.
3. Children age 10 and under must be in the immediate vicinity of and in visual contact with a parent, guardian, or caregiver* at all times while in the library. Responsibility for children using the library rests with parents, guardians, or caregivers*, not with library staff. The City of Seminole and St. Petersburg College are not responsible for children left unattended in the library.

*Caregiver must be at least 16 years of age.

4. Gathering of signatures for petitions or conducting surveys will be accommodated under the provisions of the St. Petersburg College Seminole Campus and Community Library Canvassing Policy:

<http://www.spcollege.edu/se/campus/canvassing.htm>

5. No food of any kind may be brought into the library proper area of the building – that is, the area inside the security gate at the entrance to the library from the lobby. Food may be consumed in the Café lobby, first floor halls, and other designated areas. Only beverages may be consumed in the library proper. All alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the building and on College property. Tobacco use is prohibited on all College property and in all facilities owned or leased by St. Petersburg College. There are no designated smoking areas on College property. Tobacco use includes all types of tobacco and tobacco-like products including smokeless tobacco and any other smokeable product including electronic cigarettes and chewing tobacco.
6. Posting of commercial advertising for the sale of products or services is prohibited. Selling, soliciting, or distributing commercial products or services are also prohibited. Flyers, brochures, and similar materials of an educational, cultural, and recreational nature may be placed in the information kiosk adjacent to the outer doors in the library lobby, as space allows and in accordance with posted rules.
7. No one may threaten, harm, endanger, or harass staff, volunteers, or patrons in any manner. In the past, inappropriate touching, repeated derogatory comments and questions that are personal in nature and directed to staff and other patrons have been found to amount to harassment.

- 8.** Library equipment must be used properly in accordance with posted instructions. Patrons must comply with directions from staff members for the proper use of equipment.
- 9.** Patrons may not bring into the library business office equipment such as copiers, printers, scanners, etc., which must be connected to the College electrical supply for operation.
- 10.** No audio equipment may be played without using headphones or other devices to insure that other patrons are not disturbed.
- 11.** Shoes and shirts must be worn at all times.
- 12.** Rollerblades, roller-skates, or skateboards may not be worn or used anywhere on library premises.
- 13.** Animals are not allowed in the library, with the exception of service animals.
- 14.** No weapon of any kind may be brought into the library except those authorized by law.
- 15.** No library item may be removed from the library without proper checkout.
- 16.** Patrons may not enter any area of the library marked "Staff Only" without permission. Violators may be subject to arrest for trespassing.
- 17.** The library restrooms may not be used for bathing, brushing of teeth, shaving, or washing clothes.
- 18.** Damage or destruction of library property or the personal property of staff, volunteers, or patrons is prohibited. In addition to loss of library privileges, violators may be subject to criminal prosecution or civil liability.
- 19.** Any person violating these rules may be required to leave the library premises. Severe or persistent violations may result in revocation of library privileges and permanent exclusion from the library. Persons

violating any local, state, or federal law may be subject to immediate arrest and prosecution by law enforcement agencies.

Note: The United States Court of Appeals decision -- Kreimer vs. Bureau of Police for the Town of Morristown, 1992 -- found that a public library is a "limited public forum" created for the specific purpose of providing public access to materials. Further, the library may draft rules of behavior that assure that the library is used for the general purpose for which it is intended.

Amended 21 July 2008 - Approved by Library Advisory Board

Amended 18 November 2008 - Approved by Library Advisory Board

Amended 18 May 2009 - Approved by Library Advisory Board

Amended 14 November 2016 - Approved by Library Advisory Board