

**Thorold Public Library Board
RULES OF CONDUCT**

Policy No: 94-002

Date: June 27, 1994

Date Amended: March 19, 2018

Date Amended: December 3, 2018

Date Amended: March 23, 2022

Date Amended: May 18, 2022

Motion No: 94-06-03

Motion No: 18-03-06

Motion No: 18-12-11

Motion No: 22-03-11

Motion No: 22-05-04

Year of Next Review: 2026

The Thorold Public Library is a community place. Respectful sharing of library space makes it a great experience for everyone. The Thorold Public Library Board requests your cooperation in assisting us to provide a pleasant atmosphere.

At the Thorold Public Library, everyone's conduct will be:

- Respectful of all patrons, visitors, staff and volunteers
- Careful and considerate of library property
- Law-abiding
- Responsible

Library staff make every effort to apply these rules in a fair, dignified, consistent, and positive manner for the benefit of all.

The following will not be tolerated at any time:

1. Violent, threatening, abusive, discriminatory, derogatory or harassing language or conduct of any kind
2. Disruptive or intrusive behaviour
3. Entering designated staff areas unless accompanied by Library staff
4. Smoking including but not limited to cannabis, vaping inside library facilities and/or on library property (Regional Municipality of Niagara Bylaw number 112-2013).
5. Consumption of alcoholic beverages, or bringing alcohol onto library premises
6. Be in a state of intoxication that causes public disturbance or safety concerns
7. The consumption of a 'meal' such as pizza, hamburgers, fries and sandwiches in any area of the library
8. Damage, misuse, or theft of library materials, equipment and property
9. Soliciting or conducting personal business on library property is not allowed. Non-Profit educational tutorials may be held with the permission of the Chief Librarian. Permission will be granted only upon availability of space
10. Interfering with the designated use of computers and networks
11. Improper dress including bare feet or no shirt
12. Leaving children unattended on library property (Please refer to Child Safety Policy)

13. Photographing, filming or video recording without prior written approval of the library
14. Removing items from the library without having been properly "Checked Out."
15. Bringing any animal other than one trained to assist persons with disabilities in accordance with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* or participating in a Library program organized to accommodate them
16. Engage in any activity that violates federal, provincial, local or other applicable laws or Library policy
17. Keep your belongings with you as the Library is not responsible for lost items
18. Leave the building in case of fire, fire drills, or other emergencies

The Thorold Public Library staff may, on request, inspect patron's books, bags, brief cases or other containers.

Thorold Public Library staff members are authorized to bring to an individual's attention any act or omission that violates these rules. The individual will be asked to change the problem behaviour to conform to the rules.

If such change is not evident or forthcoming, that individual may be asked to leave Library property. Failure to leave if asked may result in the police being called.

In addition, any person violating any of the above rules or any behaviour that does not support a safe and welcoming environment may result in cost-recovery charges, suspension of library privileges, and expulsion from the Library and its premises on the basis of the Ontario Trespass to Property Act and/or prosecution.

Appeal Process

An appeal may be submitted by completing the Request for Reinstatement and Appeal of Library Privileges form (Appendix A), to the Chair of the Library Board for Board consideration. Only one appeal will be considered during the term of the suspension. The Request for Reinstatement and Appeal of Library Privileges form may be requested and submitted by mail or email.

Correspondence to the Chair can be directed to:

Chair, Thorold Public Library Board
Thorold public Library
14 Ormond Street North
Thorold, ON
L2V1Y8
Email: info@thoroldpubliclibrary.ca

Application must be made, in writing for re-instatement of library privileges; library privileges are not automatically re-instated.

The decision of the Library Board shall be considered final.