

## **CITY OF PORTERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY: RULES OF CONDUCT**

Welcome to the City of Porterville Public Library. This Library is supported by the taxes of the people of this community who expect our facility to be a clean, comfortable, and safe place for selecting materials, reading, researching, studying, writing, and attending programs and meetings. The Library is responsible for establishing rules of conduct to protect the rights and safety of Library patrons, volunteers, and staff, and for preserving and protecting the Library's materials, equipment, facilities, and grounds.

We expect patrons to respect other patrons' use of our library facilities and its resources. As a courtesy to others, we ask that you place your cell phones on "vibrate" and take any phone calls outside or to the public restrooms.

**For the comfort and safety of patrons, volunteers, and staff, and the protection of Library property, the following are examples of conduct not allowed on Library property.**

- **Engaging in any activity in violation of Federal, State, local or other applicable law, or Library policy.**
- **Willfully damaging Library materials, buildings, furnishings, equipment or grounds.**
- **Bringing animals, other than service animals, into the Library.**
- **Engaging in noisy or boisterous activities that interfere with or are disruptive to other patrons' use of the Library.**
- **Leaving children unattended anywhere on Library premises if they cannot care for themselves or if such children interfere with or disrupt other patrons' use of the Library.**
- **Giving speeches or handing out literature in the Library. (However, such conduct may be allowed in the Library public meeting rooms upon receiving permission from the appropriate City official).**
- **Soliciting money on Library premises.**
- **Eating, drinking, smoking or bathing in the Library.**
- **Theft of Library materials.**
- **Carrying firearms or other dangerous weapons of any kind on Library premises.**
- **Having unsanitary bodily hygiene which is so offensive to other persons that it constitutes a nuisance in the Library.**
- **Engaging in unlawful sexual conduct on Library premises.**
- **Using or taking illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages or being under the influence of either.**
- **Engaging in conduct which threatens the safety of other patrons or library staff.**
- **Loud talking, abusive language, or profanity.**
- **Fighting, running, pushing, shoving, or throwing things.**
- **Graffiti and littering.**
- **Loitering in front of the Library and disturbing patrons entering/exiting the Library.**

In enforcing the Rules of Conduct, the Library reserves the right to take any action that is necessary to preserve any of its rights and remedies under the law. This includes, but is not limited to, pursuing legal action for monetary damages against a patron who causes damage to or loss of Library materials, buildings, furnishings, equipment, or grounds. Any such legal action will be brought by the City of Porterville.

Approved by Library Board on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006