

SERVICE ANIMAL POLICY

Bringing animals into the library, other than service animals that fall within ADA guidelines or animals which have been approved by the Library Director for a program presented by the library, is prohibited.

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a service animal is individually trained to do the work or perform tasks for people with disabilities.

- Service animals must be under the full custody and control of their handler at all time
- Service animals must be housebroken. Service animals that urinate or defecate in the library shall be considered a threat to the public welfare, safety, and health of other library patrons and shall be removed from the library by the handler.
- Service animals must be on a leash or harness at all times, unless the handler is unable to leash or harness the animal because of a disability or use of a leash or harness would interfere with the animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks.
- If the service animal cannot be leashed or harnessed, it must be otherwise under the handler's control.
- Handlers must keep the service animal directly with them at all times.

When there is a legitimate reason to ask that a service animal be removed, library staff will give the patron with the disability the option to obtain library services without having the service animal present.

The library does not condone leaving non-service animals outside the library in a way that may endanger the animal or library patrons. The Library reserves the right to contact the police regarding any unattended animals on its premises.

Library staff may ask two questions

- Is the animal a service animal required because of a disability?
- What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?

Animals whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA and are therefore not allowed in the library. The provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, companionship, or protection do not constitute work or tasks.