

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT
USE OF FACILITY
FOOD AND BEVERAGE POLICY

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The Library strives to create a welcoming, clean, and comfortable environment for all to enjoy. Consistent with this goal, food and beverages are allowed in the library on a limited basis and should be consumed in a considerate and responsible manner. Food and beverages pose a potential risk to library collections, equipment, carpet, and furnishings. This policy is intended not only to preserve our library collections and equipment and to maintain the overall longevity and comfort of library furnishings but also to provide an environment respectful of all patrons' needs.

Guidelines

- 1.1.1 Water bottles, with spill-proof lids, are allowed, except in restricted areas.
- 1.1.2 No food or beverages may be consumed near library computer equipment or other technology (such as scanners, plotters, printers, screens, gaming equipment, etc.).
- 1.1.3 No food or beverages may be consumed in the art galleries.
- 1.1.4 Infant bottles are allowed for children under the age of two (2).
- 1.1.5 Acceptable food items include pastries, chips, candy, and other snacks sold at Overdue Brew or in library vending machines. Consumption is allowed in designated areas only. For Main Branch, the designated eating area is the 2nd floor rotunda near the café, Overdue Brew. For Argenta Branch, the designated eating area is the east lounge near the vending machines.
- 1.1.6 Food and beverages should not be left unattended or uncovered.
- 1.1.7 Major spills should be reported immediately so arrangements can be made for clean up.
- 1.1.8 Food and beverages are permissible for special functions authorized by the Library.
- 1.1.9 Food and beverages are permissible in meeting rooms and reserved group spaces per the Meeting Room Policy regulations.
- 1.1.10 Food deliveries are not permitted.
- 1.1.11 Unattended food or beverages will be disposed of by staff.

The Library reserves the right to ask any user to remove his/her food and/or beverage from the library if in the judgment of the staff it constitutes a violation of this policy. If the offender refuses to cooperate, they will be asked to leave. Acting abusively with verbal or physical threats or failing to cooperate with staff may result in immediate suspension of library privileges.

Rationale

A. Eating in the library

Responsible stewardship of the Libraries collections requires that we exercise care in allowing food in library buildings. Food is easily spilled on books, furniture, and equipment, causing damage. Particles of food left behind on books, furniture, or floors attract rodents, cockroaches, silverfish and other unwanted pests.

B. Drinking in the library

All beverages, including water, are easily spilled on books, furniture and floors. Damage to library materials results in replacement costs to the Libraries and makes the material unavailable to library users. Allowing covered beverage containers greatly minimizes the risk of damage and, at the same time, meets the needs of users who are frequently in the library for extended periods.

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WILLIAM F. LAMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

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