

Pelham Library Food and Drink Policy

The Library strives to create a welcoming, clean, and comfortable environment for all to enjoy. Consistent with this goal, food and drink are allowed in the library in designated areas only and should be consumed in a considerate and responsible manner. Food and drink pose a potential risk to library collections, equipment, carpet and furnishings. The Pelham Library's food and drink policy is an effort to achieve a balance between the comfort and convenience of our users and the need to ensure the long life and value of our collections, equipment, and furnishings.

Users are expected to be responsible and adopt the "leave no trace" philosophy in their use of food and drink in the library by properly disposing of all trash, recycling whenever possible, removing any traces of food and drink, and cleaning all surfaces.

Guidelines:

Food of any type may be consumed in the Ramsdell Community Room. Users are expected to clean up after themselves including wiping surfaces and cleaning crumbs, washing dishes and disposing of all waste properly. If clean-up assistance is required report it immediately to the service desk.

Food and beverages may be eaten in the library only at the table, sofa and chair area near the fish tank. As above, users are expected to clean up after themselves. Paper towels and a carpet sweeper are available for patron use. The area must be left clean and free of crumbs.

Food-Free and Drink-Free Areas:

With the exception of baby bottles for infants, the rest of the library (book stacks, computer work stations, work/study tables, History Room) are food and drink-free areas.

Special permission may be granted by library administration to allow food and drink in these areas for a special event or program.

Enforcement:

Staff members are authorized to issue a verbal warning to patrons eating or drinking in the library in a manner that does not follow the food and drink policy. If the offender refuses to cooperate, they will be asked to leave as quickly and quietly as possible. Acting abusively with verbal or physical threats or failing to cooperate with staff may result in immediate suspension of library privileges.

Approved by Pelham Library on _____

Library Board Chair