

Pine River Public Library District

SOLICITING, FUNDRAISING, PETITIONING, CAMPAIGNING AND OTHER FREE SPEECH ACTIVITIES ON LIBRARY PROPERTY

Soliciting

Solicitors, peddlers, panhandlers, and others who seek to sell goods or services or entreat library patrons or staff is not allowed. The Library District prohibits all such activities in the library, as it may interfere with the use or enjoyment of the library by library patrons. The Pine River Library District does not endorse, sponsor, or support products, services, persons, or groups unless related to library service or management.

The Library occasionally receives requests from patrons or staff to conduct or endorse fund-raising events or to provide public space for donation collection boxes. Pine River Library District does not sponsor or endorse the fund-raising activities of other organizations, although periodically libraries may cooperate with local community charitable groups or service clubs to support community endeavors. Staff fundraising activities directed solely at staff may be conducted in the staff areas.

All library fundraising will be conducted under the auspices/permission of the Friends of the Library. Ideas and suggestions should be sent to the Director.

Petitioning and other free speech activities on library property

Free speech activities are allowed on Pine River Library District property in designated areas at a time, place and in a manner approved by the Director or designee. Those exercising their free speech rights irrespective of content may not engage in activities that violate the Library's Code of Conduct which can be viewed on the library website or at the library's front desk. Violations may result in the suspension or revocation of the right to utilize library property.

Free speech activities include, but are not limited to petitioning, leafleting, campaign activities, and the sale or distribution of newspapers. Library walkways and grounds outside library buildings provide appropriate public places for the exercise of the right of free speech, provided the activity does not create a dangerous condition, interfere with access and use of the library, damage property, or create unnecessary maintenance expense for the library.

Those exercising their free speech rights may not engage in the following activities or actions:

- Hindering, impeding or blocking the passage of library users.
- Continuing to impose upon, follow, shout at or against, mark for approach by others or otherwise press an issue after having been advised of the person's lack of interest or opposing viewpoint or desire to be left alone.
- Surrounding anyone or making serial approaches.
- Inciting or promoting acts of violence.
- Failure to abide by the time, place and manner of restrictions imposed by the Library.

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Outdoor displays by the public on library property

Unmanned campaign posters, banners, yard signs and other outdoor displays (not sponsored by the Library District) shall not be posted, exhibited or left anywhere on Library District property without the Director's permission. Such displays will be removed without notice and disposed of by library personnel.

Voter Service and Polling Center

La Plata County uses the Library's Community Room as a Voter Service and Polling Center for a period each November. Specific dates are publicly posted by the La Plata County Clerk. During the time voting is permitted the law prohibits certain free speech activities within 100 feet of the Community Room.

Election materials display

Unless during the time restricted above the Pine River Library District will provide limited space for the display of campaign materials related to candidates or issues in local and national elections. Such information is part of the reference service provided by the Pine River Library District. It does not constitute an endorsement by the library district.

Political programs and debate

Unless during the time restricted above the Library District or other organizations or individuals may schedule political programs or debates to help inform voters about issues or candidates in an election. Appropriate campaign material literature may be distributed by the program/debate participants as part of the program or debate.

Approved by the Board of Trustees: June 2017

Reviewed by the Board of Trustees: November 2025

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