

## **Patron Rights and Responsibilities**

*Revised and Approved July 11, 2011*

### **Who We Serve**

The library will serve all residents of the community and the Mid-Hudson Library System without charge. Service will not be denied or abridged because of religious, racial, social, economic, or political status; or because of mental, emotional, or physical condition; age; or sexual orientation.

### **Suspension of Patron Rights**

The use of the library may be denied for due cause. Such cause may be failure to return library materials or to pay penalties, destruction of library property, disturbance of other patrons, or any other illegal, disruptive, or objectionable conduct on library premises. It is a patron's responsibility to maintain necessary and proper standards of behavior in order to protect his/her individual library rights and the rights and privileges of other patrons. If a patron creates a nuisance, that patron may be restricted from the Library and from the use of the library facilities. Those who are unwilling to leave or do not leave within a reasonable amount of time, after being instructed to do so by the staff, will be considered to be trespassing and subject to the law.

### **Young Children**

The Kinderhook Memorial Library encourages visits by young children and it is our desire to make this important visit both memorable and enjoyable for the child. Library staff is not expected to assume responsibility for the care of unsupervised children in the library.

Therefore, it is library policy that all children under age ten must be accompanied and supervised by a parent or designated responsible person while in the library. Also, if the young child is attending a library program, we require the parent/responsible person to remain in the library throughout the program unless otherwise noted in the description of the program.

### **Disruptive Children**

Children of all ages are encouraged to use the library for homework, recreational reading, and program attendance. The library staff realizes that the library will be noisier at busy times and that children by nature can cause more commotion. However, children (whether with parents or not) who are being disruptive will be given a warning that he/she must stop the disruptive behavior or will be asked to leave the library. If after a second warning the child continues to be disruptive, he/she will be asked to leave the library. If the child needs to contact a parent, they may do so and then wait quietly by the circulation desk or outside until the parent arrives.