

# **Robeson County Public Library**

**Adopted by the RCPL Trustees on November 18, 2020**

**Effective Date – January 1, 2021**

## **Smoke-Free Library**

To protect and enhance our indoor air quality and to contribute to the health and well-being of all staff and patrons, the facilities and the immediate premises of the Robeson County Public Library shall be entirely smoke-free. Additionally, the use of all tobacco products, including chewing tobacco and electronic cigarettes are banned from the library except as designated in this policy.

Smoking is prohibited in all of the enclosed areas within the library system at all eight structures, Lumberton (Main Library and Townsend Building), Pembroke, St. Pauls, Maxton, Fairmont, Red Springs, and Rowland. This includes all public and private areas, meeting rooms, offices, common staff areas, restrooms, supply and mechanical rooms and all other enclosed areas.

Smoking is also prohibited on the library premises. No one may smoke along any pathway or walkway leading to or from the library's premises, nor may patrons or staff smoke outdoors in any of the grassy areas, including the adjoining city garden at the Main Library, or in the parking lot. It is not acceptable that either patrons or staff be required to walk through smoke to reach their vehicle or any other destination on the library premises.

For clarification regarding the main library campus, walkways include sidewalks bordering the library property and Townsend Building on 1st Street and Chestnut Street.

Patrons and staff may smoke in their personal vehicles but the smoke and tobacco products must be completely contained within the vehicle. Staff who choose to smoke in their vehicles do so at their own risk.

Staff who fails to comply with this policy will be subject to disciplinary action that can lead up to and include the termination of employment.

Patrons who fail to comply with this policy may be subject to the suspension of their library privileges and/or prohibited from visiting library property.

This policy will be announced 30 days prior to implementation to allow time for the transition to smoke-free premises.

Signs will be posted indicating "No Smoking on Library Premises".

This policy supersedes the "Smoking and Vaping Policy" in the RCPL Personnel Manual. The personnel policy statement that "smoking and vaping is permitted only outdoors away from building entrances," for staff will be updated to state, "smoking and vaping is permitted only as outlined in the Smoke-Free Library policy."