



Policy 4.14 Food and Beverages in Library Buildings

Adopted by the Library Board of Trustees: 02/26/2015:
Revised: 02/27/2020

The North Olympic Library System strives to create a welcoming, clean and comfortable environment for the public. Food and beverages may be consumed in the library in a responsible and considerate manner, minimizing the risk of damage to library collections, computers and furnishings while meeting the needs of users who are in the library for extended periods. Therefore, the following rules apply:

Nonalcoholic beverages may be consumed in the library provided the beverage is contained in a cup or bottle with a securely fitting lid or cap. Patrons must use extra care when consuming beverages near library computers and will be held responsible for any damage caused to library equipment by their beverages.

Food may be consumed by patrons only in designated “food friendly” areas of the library, provided the food is not messy, smelly, noisy, or greasy.

Patrons bringing food and beverages into the library are responsible for disposing of empty containers and trash in appropriate receptacles, they must clean up any spills or messes they create, and they must immediately bring any damage caused by food and beverages to the attention of library staff.

NOLS 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 or a violation of *Policy 4.1: Basic Rule of Conduct*.

Food and beverages may be consumed by groups using the library’s meeting and conference rooms. Due to the rare and valuable materials in the Port Angeles Main Library’s Archives Room, however, no food or beverages are permitted in that location.

Patrons who violate this policy may lose library privileges or incur limitations on their future ability to bring food or beverages into the library.

Exceptions to this policy may be considered by the Library Director on a case-by-case basis.

The Library Director is responsible for administering this policy.