



Service Animal Policy

Service animals are permitted at the Lindenhurst Memorial Library in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Service animals are defined by the ADA as working animals (not pets) that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks/duties for people with disabilities. The work/task/duties a service animal has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person's disability.

Library staff are permitted to ask the following:

1. Is this animal a service animal (in NY, only dogs and miniature horses are legal service animals)
2. What is the animal specifically trained to do?

Individuals with disabilities may bring their service animal into all areas of the library where members of the public are normally allowed to go. All service animals must be under the full custody and control of their handler at all times. Service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work or the owner's disability prevents using these devices. In that case, the individual must maintain control of the service animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls.

Owners of the service animals are solely responsible for the supervision and care of the service animal. Owners must keep the service animal directly with them at all times. Service animals must stay in public areas, be housebroken, and limit relief to outdoor areas. The owner is responsible for immediate removal and correct disposal of waste. The animal is not permitted to sit on furniture, indoors or out, as all seating is reserved for the public. The animal must not demonstrate disruptive, agitated, or aggressive behavior, including but not limited to barking, whining, biting, growling, jumping, scratching, leash pulling, sniffing, or any harassment of Library staff or the public.

Library staff will request the handler correct the animal's behavior if a service animal is not compliant with Library policy. If the handler does not take effective action and control the animal, Library staff will request that the animal be removed from Library grounds. In such a case, the handler will be able to continue the visit, or to visit on another occasion without the animal.

Adopted: March 20, 2019

Revised: April 16, 2024