



Animals in the Library

Animals allowed within the library

The Grantsburg Public Library welcomes service animals and animals invited for special library programs to enter the library building.

Service animal is defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as any service dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual's disability.

In addition to the provisions about service dogs, the revised ADA regulations have a separate provision about miniature horses that have been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities.

Animals not allowed within the library

Service animal is limited to those defined under the ADA and does not include any other species of animal, wild or domestic, trained or untrained. Service animal does not include an animal used or relied upon for crime deterrence, emotional support, well-being, comfort or companionship.

When situations occur in which a disability or function of the service animal is not obvious Library staff should ask these specific questions of the animal's handler:

1. *Is this a service animal?*
2. *What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?*

Responsibilities of the service animal's handler

The handler is not required to provide documentation about the service animal or to prove a disability. Service animals are not required to be licensed or certified, or to be identified by a special harness or collar. Service animals must be on a leash or harness always, unless the use of a leash or harness, it must be under the handlers' control via voice, signals or together effective means at all times. The animal handlers is solely responsible for the supervision and care of the service animal and must be in full control of the animal at all times. Therefore, owners must keep the service animal directly with them at all times.

The library retains discretions to exclude or remove a service animal from Library property if:

- The service animal is out of control and/or the service animal's handler does not effectively control the service animals' behavior.
- Their service animal is not housebroken.
- The service animals poses a direct threat to the health or safety or others that cannot be eliminated by reasonable modifications.
- The service animal's presence fundamentally alters the nature of a service or program provided to the public. For example, a service dog that may cause animals within a library program to behave aggressively or become agitated.

The animal's handler will be responsible for any damage to the library or personal property and injuries to individuals caused by the service animal. Anyone using a service animal on library property will hold the library and Village of Grantsburg harmless from any such damages.

Grantsburg Public Library
Approved by the Library Board of Trustees
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