

CORTLAND FREE LIBRARY

Policy Category: Public Space
Policy Title: Animals in the Library Policy
Effective Date: January 16, 2019

Need for Policy:

Cortland Free Library considers the safety and health of all its patrons, the public, and library staff to be of the utmost priority. Following the ADA's regulations for service animals allows the library to remain a safe, clean and friendly place for the entire community.

Policy:

Members of the public may only enter the library with an animal if it is a service animal that requires accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Cortland Free Library follows the Service Animal regulations implemented by the ADA (https://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm).

Animals whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA. Misrepresenting a dog as a service animal will be considered a violation of the library's Acceptable Patron Behavior policy, and may result in suspension of library privileges.

The library may occasionally include animals in special programs and will clearly indicate this in publicity for the program.

Responsibility:

The Library Director will be responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy, including ensuring all staff are familiar with the ADA's Service Animal regulations.

Approved: 1/16/19