

Photography and Video Policy

Approved 05/14/2024

Hudson Area Public Library District has a significant interest in maintaining an environment that allows patrons to freely and safely access library information and resources. This significant interest requires the library to maintain policies that protect the privacy of its patrons and staff members and ensures their freedom from harassment, intimidation, and threats to their safety and well-being. In order to provide appropriate safeguards against such behavior, the library has adopted the following policy regarding the taking of photos or videos in or around the library building. This policy applies to gatherings not covered under the Open Meetings Act.

General Policy

Visitors may take casual photos or video recordings in the library. The use of additional equipment – such as tripods or lighting – is not permitted unless previously authorized by library staff for reasons of safety and liability. Library staff may stop any photography or video recording that appears to interfere with the library's ability to conduct business or that compromises public safety or security.

Photographers and videographers must observe the following:

- Refrain from disturbing other library users (examples: tripods, flash photography).
- Be respectful of families and children.
- Refrain from taking photos/video of specific, copyrighted (or otherwise protected) materials for the purpose of redistribution.
- Refrain from taking photos/video in non-public areas, such as restrooms or staff only areas, unless given consent by staff to do so.
- Members of the media should check in with library staff prior to or upon entering the library to alert staff of the intent to photograph or video inside the library.

Library Photography, Videos, and Recording

Library staff often photographs or records programs and events for library publicity and promotional purposes. Attendance at library-sponsored events constitutes the consent of all attendees, and the consent of parents or legal guardians of minor children in attendance, to the future broadcast, publication or other use of photos or videos on the library's website or social media sites. No identification of individuals in photos or videos will be provided by the library or on the library's website or social media sites. Any individual who does not wish the library to use a photo or video of them or a child in their care should inform a library staff member while such photos or videos are being taken at each given event.

The library reserves the right to ask any individual or group violating this policy to cease the taking of photos or videos.