

UNDERAGE POLICY

The Stillwater Public Library Board and staff are pleased to welcome children and teens to the Library facilities and programs. A top library priority is the provision of a safe environment for all library patrons, especially children and teens. The function of the Library is to provide access to informational and recreational resources and programming. The Library staff cannot provide close supervision or take responsibility for an underage child. Children and teens left unattended at closing may be given a copy of this policy and a brochure listing library hours.

To enhance safety, library policy requires that an adult guardian supervise children eight (8) and under during their visit to the Library unless children are attending a library sponsored program for children and their behavior does not become disruptive.

Under no circumstances may children five (5) and under be left unattended at the Library or in a program.

Children nine (9) and older may not be left unattended at the Library for extended periods of time that do not include programs or if their behavior becomes disruptive.

If a supervisor is notified of a child twelve (12) and under on library premises near closing, the supervisor will assist the child in calling a parent or legal guardian. If the child has not been picked up by fifteen minutes after closing or if the child cannot make contact with a parent, the police will be notified. Two staff members will remain with the child until the police arrive.

Children thirteen (13) and over will be asked to use the phones to contact a parent or guardian, but will be required to remain outside the Library after closing. At the supervisor's discretion, the police may be notified.

Approved 3/28/06