

# No Weapons Permitted on Library Property

## Purpose

The Lake County Library District mission and values read:

The Lake County Libraries enrich every person by providing comfortable community spaces to satisfy curiosity, stimulate imagination, create young readers, and explore local heritage. Our SIRCLE of values drives every action we take to satisfy our mission.



Core Values:  
Service  
Integrity  
Respect  
Community  
Learning  
Excellence

In an effort to provide a safe and comfortable community space, the Library relies on Oregon Revised Statutes for authority to prohibit firearms and dangerous weapons from the library.

## Summary

Firearms and dangerous weapons are not permitted on library property. For your convenience, relevant Oregon Revised Statutes have been quoted below.

Specifically:

- With a few exceptions provided by the law (officers of the law, game officers, concealed handgun license holders), firearms are not permitted on library property at all.
- Current Oregon law does not specifically require concealed handgun license holders to carry their handgun in a concealed state. For the comfort of all library patrons as well as to reduce the risk of an incident, the library respectfully requests that CHL holders carry their handgun concealed.
- Tools you may regularly carry such as pocket or hunting knives must be carried out of sight on library property, such as in a pocket, purse, or bag. This prohibition is to mitigate the danger of these tools becoming dangerous weapons in the wrong circumstances.

## Relevant Laws

Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) give the library district the authority to make these prohibitions. For convenience, relevant laws are summarized below.

ORS 166.360 et seq. prohibits weapons in public buildings. Specifically:

- The definition of a “public building” ORS 166.360(9) includes “any other building occupied by an agency of the state or a municipal corporation, as defined in ORS 297.405.” ORS 297.405(5)(c) lists “special district” in the definition of “municipal corporation.”
- ORS 161.05(1) defines “dangerous weapon:” any weapon, device, instrument, material or substance which under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used or threatened to be used, is readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury.
- ORS 166.370(1) prohibits firearms and dangerous weapons from public buildings. ORS 166.370(2) states that this prohibition does not apply to officers of the law, military personnel when on duty, individuals licensed to carry a concealed handgun, and USDA employees acting within the scope of employment to lawfully take wildlife

## Questions or Complaints

Questions or complaints about this policy may be directed to the Library Director.