



Taber Public Library Policy Manual

General Policy: Animals in the Library

PURPOSE:

The library recognized the need, at times, to have specially trained animals to assist those with disabilities. It also recognized the need to minimize the potential health and safety risks to the public and employees that may result from the presence of animals at the library.

POLICY:

It is the policy of the Taber Public Library to allow certified and trained service animals into the library at all times, and restrained non-service animals into the library at the discretion of library staff.

GUIDELINES:

To balance customer needs with health and safety concerns, only service animals may visit the library. Service animals must be restrained, be fully under their handler's control at all times and shall not unreasonably interfere with the health and safety of other library users.

Staff members attempting to ascertain whether an animal is a service animal shall not ask about the nature of a person's disability, but may ask for proof of the service animal's status.

Staff may use discretion in enforcing these guidelines for customers with non-service animals who are engaging in brief transactions only (e.g. Picking up a hold or returning materials, extremely hot outside to leave animal in vehicle etc.) provided the non-service animal is restrained (leashed or in a cage) and fully under their handler's control at all times and that the non-service animal is not causing a disturbance (barking etc.).

Date of Approval: November 17, 2022

Date Reviewed/Revised: November 17, 2022

