The Boxford Town Library’s food and drink policy seeks to find a balance between the preservation of the library’s collections, equipment, furnishings and the comfort and convenience of library patrons. By promoting responsible user behavior, this policy attempts to achieve a balance between our users' social needs and the need to preserve and protect our collections.

Light, pre-packaged snacks that are not damaging to the collections or distracting to others are permitted except in the areas specified below. No outside delivery of food is permitted. Beverages in bottles that can be re-closed (screw top) or other spill resistant containers such as travel mugs and sports bottles are permitted. Beverages in cans and open containers are not permitted.

Food or beverages of any kind are not permitted in the following areas:

- Computer workstations
- Near printers and photocopiers
- Near any media equipment
- Other areas posted as "NO FOOD OR DRINK"

Guidelines:

In order to protect our resources and facilities from damage, we ask that patrons adhere to the following guidelines:

- Please use sturdy, spill-proof (covered) containers for beverages.
- Food and drink are permissible for special functions authorized by the Library
- Food and beverages are allowed in the staff areas and staff offices.
- Please limit consumption to pre-packaged snacks, (examples would be granola bars, chips, nuts, pretzels, cookies, etc.)
- Avoid snacks that disturb those around you (i.e. aromatic foods) or could damage library materials.
- Immediately dispose of any food and drink-related trash appropriately.
- Report any spills that may occur to Library staff immediately.

Users violating this policy will be asked to remove the food and drink from the area. Unattended food and drink openly displayed in public areas may be confiscated and discarded. This policy may be amended to ensure that collections and other resources in the Boxford Town Library remain unaffected by food and drink in the library building.

Policy voted and adopted on: August 12, 2019
Policy last reviewed and amended on: