

Food and Allergy Policy

Food and Beverages in the Library

For the comfort and convenience of our patrons, The Goodnow Library allows food and beverages in most areas of the library. Drinks must be in covered containers. We ask our patrons to clean up after themselves and to notify staff if there is a spill that needs attention. Patrons are expected to take responsibility for maintaining a sanitary and pleasant environment in this shared space. Trash receptacles are provided for your convenience throughout the library. We strongly recommend hand washing with soap and water after eating. Unattended food and drink may be removed and discarded.

Food Allergies

The Goodnow Library recognizes that food allergy is a disability protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and that reactions of individuals to food allergies may result in serious life-threatening medical conditions. The Library also acknowledges that individuals may have dietary restrictions due to cultural, religious and/or medical reasons.

The Goodnow Library allows food and beverages in most areas of the library, and those with severe food allergies should be aware that food allergens may be present in the library as it is a shared community space. All-purpose cleaning wipes and/or all-purpose spray cleaner, paper towels, and disposable gloves will be available if you wish to wipe down a hard surface.

Please be aware that at the Goodnow Library food is occasionally present in some of our programs, both as snacks and as craft materials. The descriptions of programs where food will be present will include a notice that refreshments will be served or that food items will be used. These descriptions will link to this allergy policy and provide a contact for questions and requests for reasonable accommodations. Copies of this food allergy policy will be available on the library's website.

Those with food allergies are responsible for monitoring refreshments served at the library. Responsibility for monitoring minors rests with their parents, guardians, or custodial caregivers.

Library staff do not oversee food brought in by patrons or outside groups for potential food allergens.

The Library Director is available to discuss measures to reduce the likelihood of a food allergy reaction at the library.