



ANIMAL POLICY

The Ogden Farmers' Library prohibits animals from our building except for those animals that are specifically exempted by this policy.

Those animals exempted are:

- Certified therapy animals
- Service animals (dogs) trained or being trained to alleviate the effect of a disability

The Ogden Farmers' Library, at the Library Director's discretion, reserves the right to allow animals in the building.

The library complies with The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA definition of service animals is: Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. Service animals are working animals, not pets. If a dog meets this definition, it is considered a service animal regardless of whether it has been licensed or certified by a state or local government or a training program.

The ADA states that staff may not ask about the nature or extent of a person's disability nor demand proof that the animal is certified. If it is not readily apparent that a dog is a service animal, they may ask if the animal is required because of a disability, and what work the animal has been trained to perform.

The ADA states that if a particular service animal is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it, or if it is not housebroken, the animal may be excluded. The service animal must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered while in public places unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work or the person's disability prevents use of these devices. In that case, the person must use voice, signal, or other effective means to maintain control of the animal. Under control also means that a service animal should not be allowed to bark repeatedly in a lecture hall, theater, library, or other quiet place. However, if a dog barks just once, or barks because someone has provoked it, this would not mean that the dog is out of control. If a service animal is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it, staff may request that the animal be removed from the premises.

Adopted by the Ogden Farmers' Library Board of Trustees

April 20, 2017

269 Ogden Center Road | Spencerport, NY 14459 | (585) 617-6181 | www.ogdenlibrary.com

