

Policy and Procedure Manual	Section B 16
Public Policy Nature Center Policy	Issued : October 19, 2020 Approving Authority: Board of Library Trustees

Nature Center Policy

The Nature Center, also known as *The Backyard*, will be limited to the current Fire Code occupancy requirements. The use of this outdoor space is to be consistent with the objective of the Library, which is to provide for all ages, a suitable environment for research, study, reading and learning.

The use of The Backyard will be arranged at the Youth Services Preschool Desk on the first floor. The area will be used on a first come first served basis. A waiting list will be kept if the area is at capacity. No advance registration will be taken.

The Backyard is equipped with items for learning including seating. No additional materials are allowed in this space. Activities in The Backyard should not materially or substantially interfere with the proper functions of the Library. Prohibited activities include: causing excessive noise, creating safety hazards or security risks, and creating other disturbances that violate the Library Patron Behavior Policy.

All individuals using The Backyard are responsible for the condition of The Backyard and should leave it in the same condition as it was found. Repair costs to fix any damage to the room will be charged. All adults in The Backyard are responsible for the behavior of the children present with them.

The Backyard may be used for one hour. When the one hour time limit expires the space will revert to a first-in-first-out policy as administered by Library staff. No one under the age of 10 will be allowed in The Backyard without a parent or guardian.

The Board of Library Trustees reserves the right to amend this policy at any time. The Library may also deny access to The Backyard to individuals that have failed to follow the rules and regulations for the areas' use.