

Distributing Material, Canvassing, Performing or Speaking on Library Property

The Mitchell Community Public Library recognizes and supports the public's rights to free speech that includes presenting speeches, distributing petitions or other information, and advocating views or positions. However, the Mitchell Community Public Library also has an obligation to provide library services to the public in an environment where access and privacy are maintained and where safe and unobstructed ingress and egress to Mitchell Community Public Library property is provided. Therefore, the Mitchell Community Public Library has established this policy to allow free speech while ensuring that the rights of others to use Mitchell Community Public Library facilities are not impeded.

Note: This policy pertains to the use of the Mitchell Community Public Library grounds and not the inside of the Mitchell Community Public Library buildings. Persons wishing to reserve a designated meeting space on Mitchell Community Public Library property should refer to the Meeting Room policy.

1. Persons wishing to distribute material, canvass, perform, or speak on Mitchell Community Public Library property must obtain permission in advance from the person in charge of the location and Board of Trustees.
3. The conduct of persons speaking, canvassing, performing, or distributing information on Mitchell Community Public Library grounds must be in compliance with Mitchell Community Public Library policies and federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and statutes.
4. Distributing materials, canvassing, performing, or speaking may be done only during the operating hours of the Mitchell Community Public Library.
5. In the library's aesthetic interest to maintain the premises free of debris and clutter, materials including, but not limited to, posters, flyers, placards, brochures, banners, or signs of any type may not be left unattended on Mitchell Community Public Library grounds. The Mitchell Community Public Library will remove and dispose of any unattended materials, including political campaign signs. This regulation does not apply to materials (i.e., newspapers) that are distributed through self-closing, secure, standalone dispensers that have been approved to be Mitchell Community Public Library grounds by the person in charge of the location and Board of Trustees.