

SERVICE ANIMAL POLICY

The Montauk Library is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for people who participate in our organization's activities, including those who use assistance animals. This policy is intended to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Service Animals

The ADA defines a service animal as a dog or miniature horse that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The task(s) performed by the service animal must be directly related to the person's disability. We welcome people with service animals on library property. Library staff may ask individuals with service animals these questions:

- Is the animal required because of a disability?
- What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?

Emotional Support Animals

An emotional support animal (also known as a comfort animal) provides reassurance just by being with a person. Dogs, cats, birds, hamsters, and many other species can serve as emotional support animals. However, they do not qualify as "service animals" under the ADA.

Therefore, our organization has chosen NOT to allow emotional support animals on its' premises. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause to you or your family.

Animal Handler's Responsibilities

Individuals who bring a service animal onto our premises are expected to:

- Keep the animal harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with an animal's work or an owner's disability prevents them from using these devices.
- Control the animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls, if the animal cannot be harnessed, leashed, or tethered.
- Be responsible for removing all animal waste and using designated areas for pet exercise/toileting.