

## Policy on Suspension of Privileges for Health and Safety Reasons

It is the responsibility of the Somerset County Library to maintain a healthy and clean environment for all Library users and to protect investments in library collections, equipment, and property. In order to fulfill this responsibility, the Library may restrict a user's ability to borrow materials and/or to visit library facilities when such use may jeopardize the health and cleanliness of those facilities, their collections, and/or other patrons.

Roaches, bed bugs, or other insects constitute such a hazard to collections and to patrons. Any material that shows evidence of insect presence or damage may result in a specific library customer and/or household members having their library facility and collection access suspended. This suspension and notification will be made at the discretion of the Library Director.

Examples of situations where access may be suspended include, but are not limited to:

- Evidence that items on loan to a customer have been returned with insects that are known to be damaging to library materials, or that can result in pest infestations in library facilities, e.g. roaches, termites, and silverfish;
- Evidence that items on loan to a customer have been returned with insects that can result in pest infestations in library facilities, e.g. bed bugs, fleas, or lice; and
- Patrons or patron possessions with evidence of such insects.

Any customer that has privileges suspended under the terms of this policy may request a re-evaluation of the suspension upon the ability to demonstrate that the situation that resulted in loss of privileges has been resolved.

For reinstatement requests relating to suspensions due to pest infestation, decisions will be made based upon evidence showing that the address in question has been inspected with no sign of infestation or that the residence has been treated. Confirming information may include copies of receipts for treatment, a letter from a licensed pest control company or a written statement from the owner or property manager of a multi-family rental residence. In some circumstances, proof of a change of residential address may also be accepted.