

## East Longmeadow Public Library Food and Drink Policy

Food and drink pose a risk to library collections, equipment and furnishings. To minimize damage and maintain a clean and welcoming environment, the Library Trustees have established this policy.

### Food

- Snack items in sealed wrappers or containers are permitted in the library café area.
- Food that is odorous, noisy, or prone to drips and spills may not be eaten in the library. Exceptions may be made for special library events and community room meetings.

### Drinks

- Non-alcoholic drinks with secure lids are permitted throughout the library, with the exception of computer workstations.
- Alcoholic beverages are not allowed.

### When You Eat or Drink in the Library

- Ensure all areas used are left clean for use by others.
- Waste bins are placed throughout the building. Paper towels are available in public washrooms.
- You may be financially responsible for damage resulting from spills or stains.

### Food Allergies

- You are responsible for monitoring the consumption of food and drinks by children under your supervision.
- If you are caring for children with allergies, remain vigilant. Be aware that the public is allowed to consume snacks and drinks in the library. Library staff cannot monitor for allergens.
- We strongly recommend hand washing and the use of hand sanitizers.

### No Food or Drink Allowed:

- At computer workstations.
- In the local history room or while working with local history materials.
- Wherever signs are posted prohibiting food and drink.

Adopted by the Library Board of Trustees February 15, 2017.