

## **Tewksbury Public Library Policy**

### **FOOD AND BEVERAGES IN THE LIBRARY**

#### **PURPOSE:**

Trustees and Library staff members recognize that consuming food and beverages in public places is common, and that many library users visit the library for extended periods of time. In order to balance the needs of library users and to maintain the cleanliness and good condition of the library, the library limits food and beverage\* consumption.

#### **POLICY:**

##### **Allowed:**

1. Food and beverages are allowed for meetings and programs located in the first floor Meeting Room;
2. Covered beverages are allowed at tables and in Study Rooms;
3. Non-messy snacks such as crackers, nuts, cookies, etc., are allowed at tables and in Study Rooms;
4. Consumption of food and beverages is allowed outside the building and on library grounds.
5. Please clean up after yourself and notify staff if a spill occurs.

##### **Not allowed:**

- A. Food and beverages are not allowed near library computers and equipment;
- B. Food and beverages are not allowed in the Local History Room;
- C. Uncovered beverages are not allowed;
- D. Messy snacks such as cake, ice cream, fresh or canned fruits, etc., are not allowed at tables and in Study Rooms;
- E. Meals such as fast foods, pizza, salad, anything that requires cooking/heating up, etc., are not allowed anywhere in the library with the exception of meetings or programs that take place in the Meeting Room;
- F. If a library user has food delivered to the library, the same rules will apply.

Library staff members will determine if a food item is a snack, and reserve the right to ask the library user to pack away food and/or leave the building to eat if the food does not comply with this policy.

\*Please note that the consumption of alcoholic beverages in or on library property is not allowed as stated in the library Behavior Policy.