

WESTERLY LIBRARY AND WILCOX PARK

Statement on Confidentiality & Privacy

Pursuant to RI General Laws [§ 11-18-32](#), [§ 11-49.3](#), and [§ 38-2-2 sub-§ 4\(U\)](#), and as part of our commitment to intellectual freedom, it is the policy of the Westerly Library and Wilcox Park to protect the confidentiality of patron records. Privacy is essential to free speech, free thought, and free association. Confidentiality extends to all records with identifying information about patrons, including their borrowing records, requests for information, materials, and their loan transactions. It also includes their use of library computers, all electronic and print resources they access, and items related to library programs and services. The library will keep patron records confidential and will not disclose this information except as necessary to library staff and vendors for the proper operation of the library, upon consent of the user, pursuant to a subpoena or court order, or as otherwise required by law.

The only exception to this policy is for borrowers under the age of 14. Parents or legal guardians of children under age 14 may have access to information on their child's library card.

Approved by the Westerly Library and Wilcox Park Board of Trustees April 14, 2016