

# Eastern Oklahoma Library System Policy & Procedures

**TITLE:** Animals in the Library

**EFFECTIVE:** 5/20/2003

**REVISION:** 3/26/13

**APPROVED BY:** Board of Trustees

**Page 1 of 1**

**PURPOSE:** To outline safe and acceptable presence of animals in library buildings.

**POLICY STATEMENT:** Animals, except assistive or service animals such as guide dogs used by handicapped persons, are prohibited in any EOLS library building.

Exceptions are made for the use of animals supervised by a program presenter who is participating in a library program or a library activity sponsored by the library and supervised by library staff.

Acceptable examples: a zoo handler who brings zoo animals to the library for a sponsored program; staff holding turtle races as part of a summer reading program; a small aquarium, guinea pigs or other small animals, usually housed in the children's department.

Patrons should always check with the local branch manager before bringing any kind of animal or insect into the library building.

Library staff will refer to the Department of Justice regulations implementing the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) concerning appropriateness of service animals in the library. See attached.