

## **Trenton Free Public Library Service Animal Policy**

- Pets are not allowed in the library.
- While the library may occasionally present educational programs that feature animals, members of the public may only enter the library with an animal if it is a service animal that requires accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Under the ADA, a service animal is an animal that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The animal must be trained to take a specific action to assist the person with a disability, and the task(s) performed must be directly related to the disability.
- Emotional support, therapy, comfort, or companion animals which have not been trained to perform a specific job or task do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.
- If it is not obvious that a animal brought into the library is a service animal, a staff member may ask the following questions:
  - Is the animal a service animal required because of a disability?
- A staff member attempting to ascertain whether an animal is a service animal will never ask about the nature of a person's disability.
- Service animals must be under the immediate control of their handlers at all times and the handlers are responsible for the care and clean up of the service animal.
- Service animals which are not housebroken, bark excessively, are uncontrolled, or are otherwise disruptive will be required to leave the premises.
- Animals may never be left unattended on library grounds.
- Service animals are not allowed on library furniture or fixtures, or in library baskets or carts, and must remain on the floor or be carried (as appropriate) by their handlers at all times.
- Misrepresenting a animal as a service animal is a violation of the library's Patron Code of Conduct, and may result in suspension of library privileges.