

As a limited public forum, the Woodbury Public Library exerts the right to restrict any type of recording (video, photography) that is taken without the permission of staff and patrons. The Library abides by the following American Library Association statement:

“The right to privacy – the right to read, consider, and develop ideas and beliefs free from observation or unwanted surveillance by the government or others – is the bedrock foundation for intellectual freedom. It is essential to the exercise of free speech, free thought, and free association” (<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/privacy>).

Per Deborah Caldwell-Stone, Director of the Office of Intellectual Freedom:

“In limited or non-public forums, the government agency administering the space is only obligated to allow those First Amendment activities that are consistent with the nature of the forum, even if the facility is open to the public. While the First Amendment does protect the right to film or take photos when the person filming is located on a public street, a public sidewalk, a public square, or a public park, it only provides full constitutional protection to expressive activities in a limited or non-public forum when those activities are consistent with the mission or purpose of the facility, or are expressly allowed by the facility.” (<https://www.oif.ala.org/oif/?p=18859>)

The Woodbury Public Library possesses surveillance cameras for the sole purpose of enhancing the security of the building, materials, staff, and patrons. Footage is retained on a secure server for a limited period of time. It is then permanently purged.

WPL Board of Trustees
Adopted 2021-06-22