

Connected Community — Code of Conduct Violations Policy

Adopted 26 June 2015

The GSA Connected Community is an educational resource where you can solicit the advice of your peers, benefit from their experience, and participate in an ongoing conversation. We seek to maintain the Connected Community as an open forum where members can discuss a wide range of science-related topics. However, in order to preserve a climate that encourages both civil and fruitful dialogue, we ask that you read and abide by the GSA [Connected Community Code of Conduct](#) when using Connected Community.

We reserve the right (but do not assume the obligation) to temporarily or permanently remove any content posted or group created in the Connected Community and/or to temporarily suspend or permanently terminate a member's access to the Connected Community at any time, without advance notice, for any reason, or for no reason at all.

However, we typically do not remove content from the Connected Community or suspend/terminate a member's access to the Connected Community unless the member has violated our [Connected Community Code of Conduct](#).

Violations include (but may not be limited to):

- Defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive, libelous, or slanderous comments, rudeness, negativity, personal attacks, harassment, bullying or cruelty.
- Sharing inappropriate photos or content.
- Posting advertising or commercial messages.
- Posting illegal material in violation of copyright, antitrust, or other state or federal laws.

Although GSA reserves the right to address violations of the [Connected Community Code of Conduct](#) in any way it (in its sole discretion) deems appropriate, it typically will engage in the following process:

First violation: A Connected Community administrator will withhold or remove the post. Participant will be notified by email or private message that he/she has violated the GSA Connected Community Code of Conduct. In the message, the administrator will cite the rule(s) broken. Participant will be asked to discontinue similar actions under penalty of temporary suspension from the Connected Community for a second violation.

Second violation: A Connected Community administrator will withhold or remove the post. Participant will be notified by email or private message that they have violated the GSA Connected Community Code of Conduct for a second time. The administrator will cite the rule(s) broken and notify participant that they are placed on temporary suspension from the Connected Community for a period of 90 days. Participant will be advised to discontinue similar actions under penalty of permanent suspension from the Connected Community for a third violation.

Third violation: A Connected Community administrator will withhold or remove the post. Participant will be notified by email or private message that they have violated the GSA Connected Community Code of

Conduct for a third time. The administrator will cite the rule(s) broken and notify participant that they have permanently forfeited member privileges in the GSA Connected Community.

Questions and Concerns about GSA

The Connected Community is a platform for science-related discussions. If you have questions or concerns about GSA or its employees, members, services, or products, please contact us directly at 303.357.1000 or gsaservice@geosociety.org.

Please help us keep the GSA Connected Community an enjoyable and positive experience. If you see content that violates our rules, please let us know by e-mailing the [Online Community Manager](#).

GSA reserves the right to change this policy at any time and without notice.