

Internet Policy

The Community Library provides access to the Internet as a means to enhance the information and learning opportunities for the citizens of the library's service area. The Board of Trustees has established the Internet Policy to ensure appropriate and effective use of this resource.

I. Access to Internet Resources

- A. Access to the Internet is available to all patrons; however, this service may be restricted at any time for use not consistent with the guidelines. Parents of minor children must assume responsibility for their children's use of the library's Internet service.
- B. Users should be aware that the inappropriate use of electronic resources can be a violation of local, state, and federal laws and can lead to prosecution. The user will be held responsible for his/her actions using the Internet.
- C. Users may use the Internet for research and the acquisition of information to address their educational, vocational, cultural, and recreational needs.

II. Responsibility of Online Content

- A. The Internet is an unregulated medium. While it offers access to a wealth of material that is personally, professionally, and culturally enriching to individuals of all ages, it also enables access to some material that may be inaccurate, offensive, disturbing, and/or illegal.
- B. The Library has installed technology protection measures, commonly called "Internet filters," in an effort to block the availability of obscene and pornographic materials in the Library. These measures, although effective, may not always block what the Library intended.
- C. The Library cannot control or monitor the vast amount of material accessible from computers and networks via the Internet. Individual users must accept responsibility for sites visited and links followed. The user is responsible for verification of information found on the Internet.
- D. The Library assumes responsibility only for the information provided on its website. We do not monitor, have control over, or accept responsibility for material in other sources on the Internet.

III. In-Library Use

- A. The Library upholds and affirms the right of each individual to have access to constitutionally protected material. The Library also affirms the right and responsibility of parents/guardians to determine and monitor their children's use of Library materials and resources.
- B. Library employees are available to provide assistance and to help identify appropriate sites. The patron, however, is the selector when using the Internet, with individual choices and decisions.

- C. Personal data is cleared through the use of Library software. However, the Library cannot guarantee complete patron privacy.
- D. The use of the Internet and e-mail is not guaranteed to be private. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the proper authorities.
- E. The library cannot assure that data or files downloaded by users are virus-free. The library is not responsible for damages to equipment or data on a user's personal computer from the use of data downloaded from the library's Internet service.
- F. Users printing material from the Internet will be charged on a per page basis.
- G. Users will respect and uphold copyright laws and all other applicable laws and regulations; they will not use it for illegal purposes.
- H. Internet use is offered in 120 minute sessions per day on a first-come, first-served basis; however, reservations can be made in advance. Each user is allowed one session--if there is no patron waiting for the service at the end of a session, the user can have another session, but once having had the service for 120 minutes the user must abandon use of the Internet if another patron requests use of the service.
- I. Users agree not to incur any costs for the library through their use of the Internet service.
- J. Users shall not create and/or distribute computer viruses over the Internet.
- K. Users shall not deliberately or willfully cause damage to computer equipment, programs, or parameters.

IV. Conditions and Terms of Use in the Library

- A. Library patrons are invited to use the Internet in a manner consistent with the purpose and mission of the Community Library. Users are expected to abide by the policies. Unacceptable uses of the service will result in the suspension or revocation of Internet use privileges.
- B. The Library reserves the right to regulate access to Internet sites based on bandwidth and network functionality in order to provide reasonable access to all users.
- C. The Library provides wireless Internet access. Patrons are responsible for configuring and protecting their own equipment. The Library's wireless network is not secure and the Library is not responsible for any damages arising from its use.
- D. Patrons should respect the privacy of others who are using a computer or while using a computer themselves.
- E. The Library has in good faith installed security software on its public computers to prevent fraudulent activity on its network. No system is foolproof. The Library expects its customers to take measures to protect their personal confidential information. The Library does not take responsibility for any break of personal information while using Library Internet access.