



INTERNET AND COMPUTER USE

Longwood Public Library provides computer workstations and wireless Internet access for use by the public for educational, informational, and recreational use.

While the Internet offers a wealth of information, users should be aware that the Internet is an unregulated source that contains materials which may be inaccurate, dated, incomplete, biased, inappropriate, or offensive. In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, the library utilizes filtering software to block access to some Internet sites on library computers. Despite this safeguard, the Internet may contain materials of a controversial nature. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to monitor their children's use.

The library also provides wireless connectivity to the Internet but does not guarantee that the use of the wireless connection is in any way secure or private. Monitoring or restriction of a child's access to the wireless connection is the sole responsibility of the parent/guardian.

The library utilizes time and print management software on public computers. In order to provide greater access for all patrons, the amount of time each user can operate a computer is limited. The library director or his/her designee may authorize procedures for library computer usage.

In order to use a library computer, users must enter their library card number and PIN. Those users who do not possess a library card from a Suffolk County public library may obtain a guest pass after showing valid identification. All users must agree to accept the library's Workstation Use Statement prior to gaining access to public computers.

While there may be a reasonable expectation of privacy when viewing the Internet in a private setting, library computer users should not have a similar expectation of privacy, particularly when the computer screen and/or printout could be viewed by others.

Library computer users and wireless users are responsible for using the Internet appropriately. They must not:

- Use the Internet for unlawful purposes including, but not limited to, the production or distribution of threatening material; expressions of bigotry, racism, or hate; obscene or sexually explicit material; and material protected by trade secret.
- Print or display text or media which may be reasonably construed as obscene by community standards.

- Harass, libel, or slander others.
- Make unauthorized entry into computer networks or services; distribute unsolicited advertising or spam; invade the privacy of others; or use the Internet for any illegal activity.

In no event will Longwood Public Library have any liability for lost profits; for any direct or indirect special, punitive, or consequential damages; or any liability to a third party, even if the library is advised of the possibility of such damages, arising from the use of its Internet connection. Users assume all associated risks and agree to hold the library harmless for any personal information that is compromised, or any damage caused to users' hardware or software due to electric surges, security issues, viruses, or hacking.

At the time of first registering their child or teen for a library card, parents/guardians may choose to restrict their child from access to library computers. Parents/guardians may change this selection at any time by coming in person to the library's Circulation Desk and filling out necessary paperwork. Further monitoring of, or restriction to, the Internet on library computers is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian.

Usage of the Internet in the Library that is inappropriate or inconsistent with this policy may result in termination of the computer session, restriction of access to library computers, and/or suspension of library privileges. Unlawful activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

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