

Internet Use Policy

The Library offers limited Internet access as part of its goal to provide information to all ages of the community in their pursuit of educational, personal and recreational interests.

In keeping with principles found in the Library Bill of Rights, Access to Electronic Information Services and Networks, and the Freedom to Read Act, the Robesonia Community Library provides equal access to all holders of a valid Robesonia Community Library card. Any restrictions imposed to limit access by a child/young adult under the age of 16 are the responsibility of that person's parent/guardian who should come to the library and fill out an "Internet Restriction Form." Non-card holders may use the Internet workstations depending on availability and must provide valid picture identification.

Since the Internet is an unregulated medium it does not necessarily contain accurate, complete or current information. It may also contain pornographic, disturbing or illegal information. Be also aware that material may be copyrighted. The Library has no control and does not monitor the use of this information. Patrons use it at their own discretion and risk.

Patrons using the Internet workstations must use them in a responsible manner, respecting the rights of others and the care of the equipment. Users are liable for any damage done to the equipment or software. Patrons shall not use the Library's Internet access for fraudulent or unlawful purposes. In addition, patrons must be aware that the Robesonia Community Library is committed to providing an environment free from sexual harassment, in that what a patron displays on the screen may be objectionable to other patrons and staff members.

The library staff does not provide comprehensive technical training or support, or information on setting up e-mail accounts except during scheduled Internet classes.

Usage Guidelines:

- Use of the Internet is limited to 60 minutes slots and, if available, may be extended with permission from the staff at the Circulation Desk for another 60 minutes. Further use will be at the discretion of the library staff.
- Downloading to the hard drive is prohibited (including attachments).
- Downloading information from the Internet can only be to a jump drive.
- Printing is available for 10¢ per page (black & white) and 25¢ and up per page (color) for all printing including pages a patron decides he/she does not want. Be aware that printers may not support sites with sophisticated graphics and that many web sites restrict what can be printed.
- Accessing chat rooms and chat groups is not allowed.
- Game playing is not allowed.
- Parents/guardians of children age 12 and under must read the "Internet Policy" and sign a document affirming that they have read, understand, and will abide by the policy.
- Failure to comply with the Internet Policy may result in loss of privileges to the Internet and/or library services.

Internet and Computer Use Policy and Guidelines

Goal

As part of the Robesonia Community Library's commitment to open doors to the world of information and education to the communities it serves, and in response to the advances in technology in this Information Age, the Robesonia Community Library is pleased to offer public access to the Internet.

Disclaimer

The Internet is a global electronic network that enables the library to provide information to patrons beyond the library's collection. It includes useful ideas, information, and opinions from around the world. Some Internet sites contain inaccurate, incomplete, outdated, indecent, controversial or offensive material.

The Robesonia Community Library does not monitor and has no control over information accessed through the Internet and cannot be responsible for its content. As with all other library materials, children's access to the Internet is the sole responsibility of the child's parent or guardian.

PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO COME IN WITH THEIR CHILDREN AND SUPERVISE INTERNET SESSIONS AT THE LIBRARY.

Rules for Internet Usage

- Patrons must have a valid library card from the Berks County Library County Library System or a valid driver's license, and must have no overdue materials or fines exceeding \$10.00.
- If under age 12, a "Parental Permission Form" must be signed in the presence of library staff.
- Check in at the front desk prior to using the computer. Staff may scan your library card.
- Internet use is limited to sixty minutes. If no one is waiting to use it, you may stay on for another thirty minutes.
- Internet use is "first come, first served." No reservations.
- No more than two people may use a workstation at one time.
- Downloading to the hard drive is prohibited (including attachments).
- Downloading information from the Internet can only be to a jump drive.
- Patrons may not load their personal software (CD or floppy disc) on the library's Internet workstations. Disks removed from the library building may not be re-used during future visits. The purpose of using only newly purchased disks is to insure the integrity of the system and to protect it from viruses. Because this is so important, the use of unauthorized disks will result in loss of your computer privileges.
- Please refrain from using sounds or visuals that might be disruptive to others.
- Patrons must not engage in any activity that is libelous, slanderous, illegal, or involves pornography or any material deemed offensive to the public at large.
- Printing currently costs 10¢ cents per page (black & white) and 25¢ and up per page (color).
- Patrons must not use personal software, or alter or attach equipment to the library's hardware. This prevents computer viruses.
- Patrons may not use Internet computers for recreational games or chat rooms.
- When finished using, please leave the computer on the desk top. Do not shut down the computer.
- Patrons are responsible for any damages they do to the machines or software.
- Misuse of the computer or Internet access will result in the loss of your computer privileges.
- A letter will be sent to parents or guardians of minors regarding any revocation of privileges, and a signed permission form will be included.
- This policy is subject to change.

Children and the Internet

The *Children's Internet Protection Act* (*pub. L. 106-554*) requires that a library receiving federal funds must "have in place a policy of Internet safety for minors that includes the operation of a technology protection measure with respect to any computers with Internet access...." In compliance with this provision of federal law, the public libraries have installed a filtering mechanism on all computers to protect young users from inappropriate material.

Rights of Adults

Adults (those 17 and older) may request unfiltered access to the Internet for any purpose that does not violate the law or the libraries' policies. The filter on an individual computer will be disabled in response to such a request.

Robesonia Community Library also adheres to the conditions and terms of use set forth by the Berks County Library Systems.

Copyright

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