

Livonia Public Library

COMPUTER/INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

The Internet is a global electronic network, which enables libraries to provide resources, materials, and information beyond the traditional collections and electronic resources. As such, the Internet is seen as another resource to be used to support the mission of the Livonia Public Library (...provides free access to recreational, educational, and informational materials and services, including electronic information access via computers for all ages.”)

In providing public access to the Internet, the Library shall be in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and the Neighborhood Children's Internet Act (N-CIPA). It is therefore the policy of the Library to activate filtering or blocking on all Internet capable computers. Specifically, as required by the CIPA and N-CIPA, to the extent practical, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors. Subject to staff supervision, filtering may be disabled, or in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

The Internet contains a wide variety of material and opinions. The library cannot warranty the timeliness, accuracy or validity of the information, availability of links, or regulate the materials some may find offensive. The library's ability to restrict access to images and information covered by CIPA and N-CIPA is subject to the limitations of filtering software. As in computer use by a minor, it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian, not the library staff, to determine what information is appropriate and suitable. Parents/legal guardians are encouraged to actively participate in teaching Internet safety.

Patrons in the library may not display text or graphics defined by federal or state law as obscenity or pornography. These include visual images containing nudity, obscenity, or graphic violence. Deliberate and continued display of some materials that are not obscene or pornographic may still constitute harassment. Use of the Internet or library computers for activities that violate local, state, or federal laws is prohibited. This includes committing fraud, hacking, or spreading libel or slander. Actions that violate federal, state, or local laws will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Repeated actions that create a disturbance or that may be considered harassment may result in the loss of some or all library privileges. U.S. copyright law governs unauthorized use or distribution of copyrighted material, except as permitted by the Fair Use regulation without permission of the copyright owner.

This policy may be revised periodically by resolution of the Board of Trustees.

Draft date: July 16, 1999

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Amended: September 11, 2012

Amended: September 13, 2016

COMPUTER USERS GUIDE

The Livonia Public Library currently offers six desktop computers and high-speed Internet through WIFI freely and openly for public use, regardless of a valid library patron account or user's age.

All users will be held responsible for any damage or alteration to equipment, or failure to follow any of guidelines.

Parents/legal guardians of a minor (ages 17 and under) are responsible for their actions and use of public computers and Internet WIFI. Parents/legal guardians of a minor (ages 17 and under) who do not want their child to use the library's Internet connection and/or public computers are encouraged to convey their directive to their child. LIBRARY STAFF IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR MINOR'S INTERNET OR COMPUTER USE.

Patrons may use the library's public desktop computers for (1) 60-minute session. If more time is required, the 60-minute session will reset. Usage to be determined on a first come, first served basis. Preference will also be given to patrons who are conducting academic or employment related activities.

Due to space and noise concerns, no more than two persons may occupy any computer workstation at a time.

Please do not leave your work on the library computer's hard drive. The computer protection software WILL delete all files, downloads, and modifications made throughout the day. Files may be downloaded to the patron's own flash drive or other acceptable storage device. Patrons who download files are responsible for verifying that they are free of computer viruses to protect their own computers.

Library staff will assist library patrons with searches and suggest search strategies, but can provide only limited assistance in teaching patrons how to use the Internet and only will provide assistance when time and sufficient staffing allows. The library will periodically offer short introductory classes to familiarize patrons with the basics of Internet searching. Other resources are also available for teaching use of Internet to patrons.

RULES OF PATRON CONDUCT

To allow all patrons the use of the library facility to the fullest extent during regularly scheduled hours, the Livonia Public Library Board of Trustees has adopted the following rules:

All users of electronic resources are expected to use these resources in a responsible and ethical manner consistent with the standards and rules of the library and of the community.

All users shall respect the rights of other library patrons.

Computer sessions may be terminated at the discretion of library staff for unacceptable use of library computers. "Unacceptable use" of the computer may include but are not limited to:

- Harassment or annoyance of others through noisy or boisterous activities
- Continued verbal conversations
- Continued playing of audio without a listening device
- Talking aloud in monologues
- Display print or non-print materials of an offensive nature to others
- Behave in any other manner that disturbs others
- Continued use of cell phone
- Gaining unauthorized access to resources
- Vandalizing or disrupting equipment, software or system performance
- Using the computer for illegal or criminal purpose, including hacking, fraud, or spreading slander or libel
- Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information
- Displaying, downloading, storing or printing files or messages that are illegal, obscene, or inappropriate in a public setting

Patrons using the Internet in the library may not display text or graphics defined by federal or state law as obscenity or pornography. Library staff will not monitor an individual's use of any sites except when materials displayed on the screen is not appropriate in a public environment. Since the Internet workstation is in view of other patrons and staff, users are not permitted to display any visual images containing nudity, obscenity, or graphic violence. Patrons will receive one warning regarding this rule; a second violation will result in permanent loss of Internet privileges at the Livonia Public Library. Acceptability of screen display will be left to the discretion of the supervising staff. Deliberate and continued display of some materials that are obscene or pornographic may constitute sexual harassment. If we observe criminal activities that violate federal, state, or local laws including viewing of child pornography, you will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.

This policy may be revised periodically by resolution of the Board of Trustees.

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