

Internet/Computer Use

Revised 4-16-18

The Perry County Public Library provides access to the Internet to all patrons 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/Computer Use Policy to ensure appropriate and effective use of this resource.

Use of the Internet shall be consistent with the library's mission, goals, policies and procedures and with the applicable local, state and federal laws. The library also expects that users of the Internet shall not interfere with systems operation, integrity, or security, or otherwise inhibit normal library activities.

Accuracy Disclaimer

The Internet offers unlimited global access to information. However, not all sources on the Internet provide information that is accurate, current, legal, or philosophically acceptable to all citizens. The library will not censor access to materials nor protect users from offensive information, and the library is not responsible for the availability, content and accuracy of information found on the Internet. Deliberate and continued display of some materials that are not obscene or pornographic may still constitute sexual harassment. The library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or use of information obtained through the Internet.

Filtering

The library employs the use of filtering software. Filtering software is designed and implemented to support the library's policies in providing Internet access.

Patrons who are eighteen years of age and above may request that the filtering software be disabled. Staff assistance is required to disable the filter. Staff will not ask the patron the purpose of disabling the filter.

The filter will not be disabled for any patron under the age of eighteen. A juvenile may remain in the presence of an adult who has requested the filter be disabled. The adult must remain at the computer during the time that the filter is disabled.

Patrons may not sabotage the library's filter on Internet access. Any attempt to do so could result in loss of privileges.

The library's policies regarding use of its computers and Internet access remain in effect when the filter has been disabled.

Staff Assistance

Staff will conduct Internet searches when needed as part of the library's reference and information services. Library staff may suggest search patterns

but are not available to work one-on-one with individuals using the Internet and computer systems. For further assistance, printed materials are available.

Printing and Downloading

Patrons will be charged a recovery fee for all copies made for printing, including unusable copies.

Downloading is permitted to the patron's own storage media. Downloaded materials will not be retained on the library's computers. Information downloaded from the Internet may contain a virus. The library is not responsible for damage to a person's storage media or any loss of data, damage or liability that may occur from the use of the library's computers and Internet service.

Copyright

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17 US Code) governs the printing of copyrighted material. The user of any library computer/workstation is liable for any infringement.

Privacy

The library does not provide privacy for individual users. The sending or receipt of any information through the Internet is at the sole risk of the user. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the proper authorities.

User Risks and Responsibilities

The Internet is a decentralized, unmoderated global network with a highly diverse user population; the Perry County Public Library has no control over the content found there and library patrons use it at their own risk.

The library is unable to monitor or control the content of the materials on the Internet. Users of the Internet are responsible for their own choices. Parents, guardians, and responsible adults are responsible for the use of these resources by their own minor children.

Internet/Computer Misuse

Users should be aware that the inappropriate use of electronic information resources can be a violation of local, state, and federal laws and can lead to prosecution. Actions that violate federal, state or local laws will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Users will be held responsible for their actions when using the Internet. Users are expected to abide by this policy. Unacceptable uses of the service will result in the suspension or revocation of Internet use privileges. Examples of inappropriate use include, but are not limited to the following:

- *Unauthorized tampering with computer hardware or software
- *Violation of another user's privacy

- *Transmission of threatening, obscene or harassing materials
- *Sending or receiving e-mail via the library's computer and e-mail account (other than via a Web-based mail provider)
- *Violation of state obscenity and federal sexual harassment laws, which prohibit printing or display of sexually explicit materials in public places
- *Accessing pornographic material on Internet workstations (KRS 531.020)
- *Violation of copyright laws and software licensing agreements
- *Commercial use of the Internet
- *Charge fees to library via Internet workstations
- *Using the computer for illegal or criminal purposes
- *Using the computer to 'hack' the local or any other system
- *Create or distribute computer viruses over the Internet

Abuse or misuse of equipment, software or policies will be grounds for revocation of privileges or possible legal action. The first offense will result in a verbal or written warning. A second offense will result in a one month suspension. A third offense will result in a complete suspension of Internet/Computer privileges. Dependent upon severity of offense, an immediate complete suspension may be applied, and privileges revoked at the discretion of the Director. Any user who has been banned from using the Internet service will not be able to use a computer/workstation.

The library reserves the right to end an Internet session at any time.

Internet Use Agreement

All patrons, including parents, guardians, and responsible adults of children under age 18 must sign an Internet Use Agreement on the initial Library Card Application form prior to initial use of the Internet. Each time thereafter, the patron must sign in on the computer with a current Perry County Public Library card. Parents, guardians, and responsible adults of minor children must assume responsibility for their children's use of the library's Internet service.

Use

All Internet/computer users must read and accept the Internet/Computer access policy posted on the library's public access computers prior to beginning their session. All Internet/computer users must have a Perry County Public Library card or request a temporary card number (guest pass) to use a public access computer. A guest pass can be obtained by visiting the circulation desk. All patrons/visitors must sign in using their own library card number or assigned guest pass number. Adults and minors have equal access to workstations in designated areas: Children (up through age 12) must use the computers in the children's area; Teens (ages 13-18) must use computers in the Teen Room; and Adults (over 18) must use the computers in the Adult Computer Lab. Adults may use workstations in the children's area only when they are accompanying and monitoring a child that is using a computer in the children's computer lab. Library staff may re-assign areas of computer use when necessary.

Internet/Computer Use by Minors

Parents, Legal Guardians or Responsible Adults will be responsible for the following:

1. Monitoring their child's access to inappropriate matter on the Internet and Worldwide Web. The library cannot control sites that children may select on the Internet, and staff cannot act in place of a parent to do so;
2. Supervise the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms and other forms of direct electronic communications;
3. Prevent unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information;
4. Prevent minor's unauthorized access, including "hacking", and other unlawful activities while online;
5. Avoid minor's access to materials harmful to them by monitoring all Internet use.

Limits and Reservations

The library uses automated time-keeping software to track the use of its public computers. A valid Perry County Public Library card is required to access this system. A temporary card number (guest pass) may be generated for patrons who are not eligible for a Perry County Public Library card.

All computer users will have an initial 60-minute session per day. Sessions may be extended for an additional time if no other users are waiting for a computer. Workstations will automatically lock after 60 minutes if another user has reserved a workstation. By clicking the "Menu" button, then, "End Session" button, you may end your session before your allotted time is over. All public access computers will automatically shut down 10 minutes prior to the library's closing time.

Reservations for Internet/computer use may only be made in person. No other reservations will be accepted.

A maximum of two patrons may use a single computer at one time.