Internet Use / WiFi Network Use

The Mamaroneck Public Library provides free access to the Internet in accordance with its mission to provide information of all types in a wide range of formats. This Computer/Internet Policy affirms the principles of intellectual freedom, equity of access, and confidentiality of information about users and their use of library resources.

The Internet is a vast and unregulated information network. The Library does not monitor and has no control over information on the Internet. Not all the information is accurate, current or complete. Users are encouraged to exercise critical judgment in evaluating information that is accessed through the Internet. The Library cannot protect users from information and images that they may find offensive or disturbing. The Library assumes responsibility only for the information provided on its official website.

Since the Library computer terminals are located in public areas that are shared by persons of all ages, backgrounds and sensibilities, computer users are asked to consider this when viewing potentially offensive images. The Library reserves the right to require individuals to discontinue the display of images that cause a disruption.

Parents or legal guardians must assume responsibility for deciding which Library resources are appropriate for their children. Use of computers in the Children's Room is limited to children and their accompanying parents or caregivers. Children who use the Internet unsupervised may be exposed to inappropriate and disturbing information and images. We encourage parents to learn about the Internet so that they can teach their children how to use technology properly and to make wise choices.

Library users are cautioned that the Internet is not a secure medium and all transactions, files and communications are vulnerable to unauthorized access and, therefore, should be considered public. The Library will not release information on the use of electronic resources by members of the public except as required by law.

Acceptable Use Guidelines

All individuals are expected to use the Library's computer terminals in a responsible, lawful, and courteous way, consistent with the educational, informational and recreational purposes for which all Library resources are provided. Use of computers or the Internet for activities that violate local, state or federal laws is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to activities such as viewing pornography, committing fraud, hacking, libeling or threatening.

The following rules, regulations and procedures have been established for acceptable use standards:

- The number of computer terminals is limited and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis whether in person or by telephone reservation.
- The Library reserves the right to limit the amount of time an individual may use library equipment.
- Individuals may not alter or damage hardware, software or data or in any way interfere with, disrupt or degrade the network.
- Library terminals may not be used to transmit threatening, harassing or abusive language and images.
- Individuals may not invade the privacy of others by 'hovering' over them while they use the terminals. No more than two people may use a terminal at the same time.
- Individuals may not misrepresent themselves as another user or attempt to modify, gain access or reveal passwords or personally identifiable information pertaining to others.
- U.S. copyright law (Title 17, U.S. Code) prohibits the unauthorized reproduction or distribution of copyrighted materials, except as permitted by the principles of fair use. The Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility resulting from copyright infringement or any violation of local, state or federal laws in the use of terminals.

Failure to abide by these guidelines may result in the suspension or loss of computer and other Library privileges.

WiFi Use on Personal Devices

The Library provides free Wi-Fi access for users with portable computers and devices capable of receiving wireless signals. The Wi-Fi access option is open to patrons of all ages; parents or guardians are responsible for supervising their child's proper and safe use of the Internet. At this time, no registration or sign-up is required.

As with most public wireless "hot spots," the Library's wireless connection is not secure. Any information being sent or received could potentially be intercepted by another wireless user. Wireless users should use caution when entering their credit card information, passwords and other sensitive personal information while using any wireless "hotspot."

Users assume all associated risks and agree to hold harmless the Library and its employees for any personal information (e.g. credit card) that is compromised, or for any damage caused to users' hardware or software due to electric surges, security issues or consequences caused by viruses or hacking. All Wi-Fi users should have up-to-date virus protection on their personal laptop computers or wireless devices.

Library staff are not responsible for any changes users make to their computer settings and cannot guarantee that a user's device will work with the Library's wireless connection.

Users are responsible for configuring their own equipment to access the wireless service. Staff cannot assist in making changes to the user's network settings or perform any troubleshooting on the user's computer. Users should refer to their owner's manuals or other support services offered by their device manufacturer.

All users are expected to use the Library's wireless access in a legal and responsible manner, consistent with the educational and informational purposes for which it is provided. Users who violate federal, New York or local laws, including the transmission or receiving of child pornography or harmful material, fraud, or downloading copyrighted material may be reported to the proper authorities.

Dedicated printers are available via the wireless connection. Printing can be facilitated via the website and reference desk staff are available if help is needed.

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