



INTERNET AND COMPUTER POLICY

The library provides access to electronic information while adhering to the library's mission and strategic plan.

Policies:

- I. The library provides access to basic Internet and computer resources. The library director has authority to limit use as necessary to maintain the library's primary emphasis on the use of the Internet to access reference and information sources. Library staff will attempt to provide and make available internet service during library open hours. Unplanned outages, system maintenance, and repairs may impact the ability of the County to provide these services.
- II. Each individual is responsible for the content of the searches he or she conducts, and parents are responsible for the use of the Internet by their minor children. The library uses filtering software to prevent minors from accessing, or being exposed to, illegal visual depictions, including pornography, obscenity, or material otherwise harmful to minors. This policy was developed in order to meet the provisions of State and Federal law. However, the filters are not perfect, and patrons are responsible for complying with all use policies.
- III. Electronic devices may be used in locations of the library other than the library patron computer area. Use policies apply to any wireless device used on the library premises.
- IV. Patrons may not use equipment owned by the library for prohibited activities. The following activities are specifically prohibited:
 - a. Loading or downloading files or computer programs or uploading/downloading software that may harm library computers or other property.
 - b. Installing or connecting unauthorized technical devices, changing system or software configurations, installing any software of any type, disconnecting hardware, installing hardware, or changing hardware configurations.
 - c. Engaging in any activity intended to compromise system security, interfere with the proper operation of, or compromise the security of other computers or network systems, compromise the privacy of other users, or obstruct the work of others.
 - d. Using a computer system to send forged e-mail, bulk mail, unsolicited voluminous or frequent e-mail, illegally share copyrighted materials with others, or to fraudulently misrepresent the user's identity in any communications.
 - e. Creating personal folders, bookmarks, system passwords, or other Individualized files.
 - f. Disclosing, using, and disseminating personal information regarding minors.

- g. Participating in illegal activities (i.e. gambling, fraud, child pornography, etc.)
 - h. Violating United States copyright law (Title 17, U.S.C.). All responsibility for any consequence of copyright infringement lies with the user, not the library.
 - i. Using someone else's library card to access the Internet on the library's computers, except for a parent accessing the Internet for a minor child.
- V. Any violation of the internet policy will result in the suspension of Internet privileges. Any person who is disturbing others in the computer area may be asked to leave. Enforcement of these policies, consistent with the requirements of Utah Code Annotated §§ 9-7-215 and 9-7-216 (1953, as amended), and State Rule 223-2, are based on guidelines and procedures adopted by the Washington County Library Board, which are available for public review at all branches.
- VI. The library does not guarantee privacy of any information that is viewed on our computers or transmitted via the Internet. This includes things like document contents, passwords, account numbers, e-mail messages, etc. The library uses its best efforts to ensure network security, but users assume all risk and responsibility for the use of library networks. The library is not responsible or liable for the loss or compromise of any information, or for damages resulting from that loss or compromise.
- VII. Non-residents and visitors without a library card will be required to show valid identification showing the visitor to be an adult and will be charged a visitor use fee. The fee must be paid before the use of the Internet begins. Minor visitors will require parental permission to gain visitor access to library computers.

Note: Individuals with concerns or questions relative to these policies may submit a written request to the Library Director. Any such request will be considered by the Director and/or the Library Board.


DANIEL MCGUIRE, Library Board Chair


JOEL E. TUCKER, Director

Approved by the Washington County Library Board: February 9, 2022