

Lambertville Free Public Library

Internet and Computer Use Policy

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Lambertville Free Public Library provides access to the internet as a means to enhance the information and learning opportunities for its library patrons. The Board of Trustees has established this policy to ensure appropriate and effective use of the library's internet and computer resources.

As a matter of policy, the library does not restrict access to any resource on the internet for reasons of content. Access to the internet is available to all patrons; however, this service may be restricted at any time for use not consistent with the guidelines.

USE OF INTERNET AND COMPUTERS BY CHILDREN

Parents or guardians are responsible for information selected and/or accessed by their children via the internet. Because anyone who uses the internet unsupervised may be exposed to inappropriate or disturbing information and/or images, parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss the use of the internet in relation to family values and boundaries with their children, and to regulate and monitor their children's use of the internet. Parents and guardians are responsible for their children's use of the library's internet service.

EXPECTATIONS FOR APPROPRIATE USE OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

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. Users will be held responsible for their actions using the internet and/or library computers. Users are expected to abide by the policies below, which include generally accepted rules of network etiquette. Misuse of public workstations, software, or the internet will result in the suspension of the privilege to use them.

DISCLAIMERS

The internet is a decentralized, unmoderated global network and the Lambertville Free Public Library has no control over the content that may be found there. The library will not censor

access to material nor protect users from offensive information, and it is not responsible for the availability and accuracy of information found on the internet.

The library cannot assure that data or files downloaded by users are virus-free. The library is not responsible for damages to equipment or data on a user's personal device from the use of data downloaded from the library's internet service.

The use of the internet and e-mail is not guaranteed to be private. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the proper authorities.

GUIDELINES FOR INTERNET ACCESS

The library provides access to the internet free of charge to all patrons for use on their own devices or on public workstations. These rules govern the use of the internet:

- Users may use the internet for research and the acquisition of information to address their educational, vocational, cultural, and recreational needs.
- Users may not use the Library's computers for any fraudulent or unlawful purposes, including activities that violate federal, state, or local laws. New Jersey Statute 2C:34-4 (Public Communication of Obscenity) prohibits you from accessing or displaying pornographic and/or obscene materials. Any illegal activity involving the library's internet resources may be subject to prosecution by the appropriate authorities.
- Users will respect and uphold copyright laws and all other applicable laws and regulations.
- Users will respect the rights and privacy of others by not accessing private files.
- Users agree not to incur any costs for the library through their use of the internet.
- Users shall not create and/or distribute computer viruses over the internet.

GUIDELINES FOR USE OF LIBRARY COMPUTERS

The library provides computers that can be used by patrons for internet access or other software applications on a first-come, first-served basis. These rules govern the use of these shared resources.

- Cardholders can log onto computers using the barcodes on their library cards. Sessions are one hour and may be renewed based on availability.
- Users may not alter or attempt to alter the setup or configuration of library computers (including software and peripherals).
- Users may not download third-party software to library computers.

- Users must supply their own electronic storage devices.
- Library computers are available without charge, but there is a cost for printing.
- The library is not responsible for any damage done to library users' disks, data, hardware or software by any virus, malware or other harmful code that may have been contacted on or through library equipment.
- Users shall not deliberately or willfully cause damage to computer equipment, programs, or parameters.
- Users must refrain from the transmission of threatening, harassing, violent, obscene or abusive language or images using the internet, applications or email.
- The library reserves the right to ask users to discontinue the display of information and images that cause a disruption or discomfort to others using the library.