

Internet and Wireless Use Policy

Purpose

In order to provide a connection to information and social media, internet access computers are available without charge to library patrons. The Library provides public access to information of all types in a wide range of formats, and free internet access is one component. The library also offers free 24 hour wireless internet access to patrons with personal wireless-enabled laptop computers or handheld devices, patrons may use the provided Wi-Fi outside of the building when the library is not open to the public.

Responsibility of the Library

The Lehigh Public Library does not use any filtering software to block or restrict access to the internet on any of its computers or devices. The availability of information does not constitute endorsement of the content by the Lehigh Public Library. The Lehigh Public Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or the use of information obtained through the internet, or any consequences thereof. The Lehigh Public Library does not accept liability or responsibility for any patron's personal equipment.

Responsibility of the User

Persons using the library's internet access computers or devices should be knowledgeable in basic computer operation. Library staff will assist with library equipment and resources, but may not be able to help with personal devices. Only minimal instruction, as time permits, can be offered by the staff.

The library has no control over the information accessed through the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. Individuals must accept responsibility for evaluating content. As with other library materials, the library affirms the right and responsibility of parents or guardians to guide, determine, and monitor their minor children's use of the internet.

Users are urged to respect the sensibilities of others when accessing information that may reasonably be offensive to someone else. However, absolute privacy in using the internet in the library cannot be guaranteed. There exists a possibility of inadvertent viewing by others. Access, use, or dissemination of information via the internet in the library is the responsibility of the user.

Rules Governing the Use of Library Computers and Devices

1. All users of the library will have equal access to the library's computer resources. Use of library computers and devices will be on a first come first served basis.
2. No more than two persons may use a public access computer or device at the same time.
3. Users will be limited to 2 hours, if there are patrons waiting a limit of 30 minutes to one hour will be enacted at the discretion of library staff.
4. Users are responsible for making and maintaining their own personal accounts. Users are responsible for remembering their own long in information to access their personal accounts while using library equipment.
5. The Lehigh Public Library urges users to use caution when giving out personal information. Users assume all risk/liability when divulging any personal information on the internet, including banking/financial information. The library is not responsible for charges, damages, or injuries resulting from such activities.
6. Users are required to log off of all websites prior to leaving computers or devices. The library is not responsible for data breaches due to users' negligence.
7. Anything downloaded to the library's computers without authorization will periodically be deleted by staff, including search histories.

Misuse includes but is not limited to:

1. Viewing and/or downloading materials that violate federal, state or local laws or regulations, including those regarding copyright, or accessing, viewing and distributing obscenity or child pornography.
2. Hacking into the library computer system or any other computer

system.

3. Mishandling, damaging or attempting to damage computer equipment or software; tampering with computer set-up. Interfering with system operations, integrity, or security.
4. Attempting to gain or gaining access to another person's files or authorization codes.
5. Displaying or printing materials that violate laws & policies on sexual harassment.
6. Engaging in any activity that is offensive or creates an intimidating or hostile environment.
7. Violating copyright laws and software licensing agreements or the policies of the individual websites that you view.
8. Use of sounds that are disturbing to others. Earbuds or headphones must be used if the computer or device's speakers are tuned on. Headphones are available at the Circulation desk.
9. Any other violation of library policies.

Wireless

The library provides free, unsecured, wireless internet access (WiFi) for the public to use with their own personal notebooks, laptops and other mobile devices.

1. WiFi access provided by the library is unsecured. Anti-virus, security, and privacy protection are the responsibility of the user. Users should be aware that information sent wirelessly can be captured by anyone else with a wireless device and the appropriate software.
2. Personal use of the library's public wireless access must conform to policies regulating other types of public internet access provided by the library.
3. Library staff are not able to provide technical support for privately owned personal wireless devices. users are responsible for having the proper hardware, software, and network settings on their wireless device to connect to the library-provided WiFi. There is no guarantee that you will be able to make a wireless connection.

4. Printing is not available via the library's WiFi service. If printing is desired, the customer may transfer documents to their own peripheral storage device or to a web-based personal email account and print from one of the library's public internet computers.
5. The library is not responsible for any theft, damage or misuse of customers' personal notebooks, laptops and other mobile devices while on the premises of the library.
6. The library assumes no responsibility for the safety of equipment or for laptop configurations, security, or data files resulting from connection to the library's network.

Legal Considerations

Activities that violate local, state, or federal statutes are prohibited.

Copyright law (Title 17, U.S. Code) prohibits the unauthorized reproduction or distribution of copyrighted materials. Users may not copy or distribute electronic materials (including electronic mail, text, images, programs or data) without the explicit permission of the copyright holder. Any responsibility for any consequences of copyright infringement lies with the user; the Lehigh Public Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility resulting from such use. Copying some materials may be permitted by the principles of "fair use."

The Lehigh Public Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or use of information obtained through its electronic information systems, or any consequences thereof.

The Code of Iowa, Section 716A prohibits damaging or destroying a Library computer or computer program, software or system. Also prohibited is unauthorized access. Persons attempting any such action will be prosecuted.

Iowa Code, Chapter 728.2, "Dissemination and exhibition of obscene materials to minors" states: Any person, other than the parent or guardian of a minor who knowingly disseminates or exhibits obscene materials to a minor, including the exhibition of obscene material so that it can be observed by a

minor [emphasis added] on or off the premises where it is displayed, is guilty of a public offense and shall upon conviction be guilty of a serious misdemeanor.

Enforcement

Illegal activities or activities that interfere with or disrupt the network, users, services, or equipment are prohibited. While The Lehigh Public Library respects individual users' right to privacy, and does not routinely monitor the public's use of equipment and internet, the library staff reserves the right to monitor the use of computer workstations and devices when a violation of this policy or illegal activity is suspected. Lehigh Public Library staff are authorized to take immediate action to protect the security of computers and the network and to enforce the above rules. This includes but is not limited to confiscating any removable storage device or media, requiring a user to leave a computer or the premises, and contacting law enforcement authorities.

Consequences

Violations of the Library's internet and Wi-Fi policy may result in loss of computer privileges and may lead to financial responsibility on the users' behalf. Illegal acts involving Library computers may also be subject to prosecution by local, state, or federal authorities.