



# **PUBLIC COMPUTERS AND USE OF THE OF THE INTERNET POLICY**

## **A. SERVICES PROVIDED**

As part of its mission to provide information to the public, the Marion County Library provides public computers with free access to the internet, as well as free Wi-Fi for use in the library.

1. Patrons wishing to use public computers must sign in at the circulation desk using their library card.
  - a. Visitors who do not have a library card may sign in as a guest.
2. Computer use may be limited to 1 hour.
3. The library staff can assist with basic computer use.
4. Printing may be done from the public computers at a charge to be determined by the Library Director.

## **B. USER CAUTIONS**

The internet is a global, digital network with no centralized control over its users or content.

1. Information on the internet may be reliable and current or it may be inaccurate, out-of-date, or unavailable at times.
2. The internet and its resources are always changing. In some cases information may be found faster and more easily in traditional print sources.
3. Some material available on the internet may contain items that are illegal, inaccurate, defamatory or potentially offensive and /or disturbing to some people.
  - a. Although the library uses software designed for public use computers to limit exposure to pornography, parents/guardians of minors are responsible for their minor's use of the internet.
4. The internet is not a secure medium of communication. The library does not recommend transmitting confidential personal information, such as credit card numbers, across the internet.
  - a. The library assumes no responsibility for loss or damages arising from such activities.



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## **C. RULES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Starting any computer application or software on the library's computers constitutes agreement of the user to the terms of this Policy.
2. Each user must close all applications and return the computer to the desktop view before leaving the computer.
  - a. If the user does not log out of any social media accounts the user opened, the library assumes no responsibility for the use of, or posting on, the open account by a subsequent user.
3. Although the library uses anti-virus software on its computers, such software will not completely protect a user from computer viruses.
  - a. A user who downloads files or saves information from the library's computer onto a portable storage device should be aware of the dangers associated with virus.
  - b. The library assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to the user's data or hardware caused by computer viruses

## **D. PROHIBITED USER ACTIVITY**

A user may not engage in the following activities:

1. Send, display or receive obscene, harassing, or libelous messages, files or images or any other activity defined as harmful to minors in Arkansas Code 5-68-501.
2. Engage in any activity which is obscene or deliberately and maliciously offensive, libelous, or slanderous.
3. Use library computers to gain access to computers or computer systems for which the user is not authorized.
4. Deliberately attempt to damage computer equipment or software.
5. Deliberately attempt to alter software configurations.
6. Deliberately attempt to cause degradation of system performance or unnecessarily impede the computing activities of others.
7. Use any library computer for illegal or criminal purposes.
8. Violate copyright laws or software licensing agreements.



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9. Install or use any software not currently installed and available for use on the computer.
10. Intentionally use techniques or software which harass other users or infiltrate a computer or computing system and/or damage or alter the software components of a computer or computing system.
11. Remove equipment from the computers or computer monitor.
12. Use another person's library card to gain access to library computers.
13. Patrons using someone else's library card may be asked to discontinue his or her computer session and may be temporarily banned from using the library's computer resources.
14. A user who owes fines in an amount determined by the director will be refused the right to use the library's computers

## **E. VIOLATIONS OF POLICY**

A user may be subject to prosecution by federal, state or local authorities, depending on the nature of the user's activity, as well as loss of library privileges.

1. A user whose conduct on the library's computer poses an immediate and imminent danger to any person or property will be immediately removed from the premises, without prior notice or warning.
2. Other less dangerous violations of this Policy will be treated as stated in the Patron Responsibilities Policy.

Adopted by the Marion County Library Board

April 8, 2021

  
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Curt Bryant, Chair

April 8, 2021