

Internet Policy

Purpose

The West Branch Public Library is committed to digital equity and provides free access to the internet to all patrons. Public internet access may be provided through public use computers and laptops, a 24-hour wireless network accessible in and around the library building, and mobile internet hotspots available to check out to eligible library patrons.

Intellectual Freedom

Just as the library does not restrict access to other material forms and formats, we cannot refuse access to internet content that someone else may deem objectionable. The principles of intellectual freedom that apply to the traditional monographic library also apply to the modern electronic access library.

Minors

As with other library materials, restriction of a child's access to the internet is the responsibility of the parent/guardian. Library staff cannot enforce any restrictions which a parent/guardian may place on a minor's use of library internet. Neither the library nor its staff are responsible for the internet content selected and/or accessed by their child/children.

General

The library has no control over the information accessed through the internet and is not responsible for its content. The library is not responsible for the accuracy or security of information transmitted via the internet.

The library staff is not responsible for any technical difficulties arising while or from using the library's internet access. The library does not guarantee or troubleshoot connections made on personal devices.

In accordance with Iowa State Law, it is unlawful to display offensive material in a public place where children may be present; this includes pornography, offensive language, and acts of violence. Any user viewing such material may be asked to move to a less public area of the library.

Use of the Library's internet connection in an illegal, disruptive, or destructive manner may result in the loss of internet or library privileges.

A time limit of 60 minutes may be imposed on the library's computers if another patron is awaiting computer access. An Express computer is provided for short-term use with a time limit of 20 minutes.

Internet use through the library's wireless network and mobile hotspots conforms to rules set out in this policy.

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