

SUN PRAIRIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

INTERNET & COMPUTER POLICY

This policy is to ensure that computer resources are used in a responsible manner and that the rules and regulations cited below apply.

I. Disclaimer

- A. The library does not monitor, has no control over, and does not accept responsibility for material on the Internet. The 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.
- B. Users must use library computers at their own risk, realizing that beyond the library's home page and supporting documents, they may encounter material they find offensive. This policy applies to in-house computers as well as patron's wireless devices.
- C. The responsibility for what minors read or view on the Internet rests with parents or guardians. The library does not use Internet filters (Appendix I).
- D. Users must use any library computer at their own risk, realizing that the library does not offer storage or backup options and that documents may be lost.

II. Using Library Computers

- A. Users must use their own library card in good standing to access the Internet.
- B. Internet use is limited to a total of 2 hours per day per user. Rental laptops have no time limit.
- C. The library reserves the right to limit the use of the workstation to one half hour per day when the library is busy.
- D. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult to use the Internet.
- E. Users are not allowed to operate their own software on library-owned equipment.

III. Unacceptable Internet Use

Use of library Internet and computer access must be legal. Illegal or unacceptable uses include, but are not limited to the following:

- Transmitting threatening or harassing materials
- Any and all forms of bullying
- Libeling, slandering or maliciously offending other users
- Violating other users' privacy
- Violating copyright laws or software licensing agreements (Appendix II).
- Exposing children to harmful materials: This policy presumes that children are always present in all areas of the library (Appendix III).
- Obstructing other people's work by overuse of system resources
- Hacking or attempting to crash, degrade performance of or gain unauthorized access to the library's computer systems and networks
- Gaining access to data belonging to others
- Modifying or damaging equipment, software or data belonging to the library or other users
- Using another patron's library card or misrepresenting oneself as another user.

The Sun Prairie Police Department may be contacted to assist staff in dealing with unacceptable or illegal computer use.

IV. Consequences of policy violation

- A. First infraction will result in a warning that loss of library privileges may result.
- B. Second infraction will result in a loss of library privileges of up to one month.
- C. Third infraction or continuous repeat infractions will result in a loss of library privileges for not less than one month or more than a year.

Any person who enters or remains on library premises after losing their library privileges will be reported to the Sun Prairie Police Department for removal.

*Adopted February 10, 2000;
amended August 21, 2002;
amended April 10, 2003;
amended December 8, 2005;
amended July 19, 2007;
amended August 14, 2008.*

Appendix I: Child Safety on the Information Highway -- http://www.safekids.com/child_safety.htm

Appendix II: US Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S. Code) -- <http://www.access.gpo.gov/uscode/uscmmain.html>

Appendix III: WI Statutes Sec. 948.11, among other things, makes it a crime to expose children to pictures or images of nudity, sexually explicit conduct, or physical torture or brutality that appeal to the prurient, shameful or morbid interests of children, are patently offensive to prevailing adult standards regarding materials suitable for children, or lack serious literary, artistic, political, scientific or educational value for children.

<http://nxt.legis.state.wi.us/nxt/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&vid=WI:Default&d=stats&jd=top>