

Poquoson Public Library

Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Mission Statement

The mission of the Poquoson Public Library is to provide and to promote the use of library resources and services to meet the educational, recreational, and informational needs and interests of the residents of the City of Poquoson through emerging technology and an ever-changing variety of media resources, thus enhancing the overall quality of individual and community life.

It is within this context that the Poquoson Public Library provides a variety of electronic resources including free public computer and Internet access to all library users.

Responsibilities of Internet Users

1. The Internet contains a wide variety of materials and opinions from varied points of view. The Poquoson Public Library can neither monitor nor control the information posted on the Internet and cannot be responsible for its content, accuracy, appropriateness, or currentness. Users need to be good information consumers and are responsible for material that is accessed.
2. Users are bound by local, state, and federal laws relating to copyrights, security, obscenity, pornography, and all other statutes regarding electronic media. Accessing, displaying, or printing of obscene or illegal content (e.g. fraud, gambling, pornography, etc.) is prohibited. See sections 18.2-372, 18.2-374.1, and 18.2-390 of the Code of Virginia.
3. Users are required to have their valid library card or picture ID when registering for Internet use. Users must read the Library Internet Acceptable Use Policy before using the Internet.
4. Access to the Internet at the library is filtered in accordance with section 42.1-36.1 of the Code of Virginia. The filters can be disabled by the library staff at the request of an adult patron (age 18 or over).
5. Users may not tamper with or reconfigure equipment, software, or data in the library computer. Downloading information to the hard drive and use of non-library software are not permitted.

Access by Youth

The Internet may contain material that is inappropriate for viewing by children. As with other library materials, the library affirms the right and responsibility of parents/guardians to determine and monitor their children's access to the Internet. It is recommended that children age 13 or younger be accompanied by a parent/guardian while on the Internet seeking information. Suggestions on using the Internet safely and effectively are available in the library and on the library website.

Time Limits

Anyone wishing to use the Internet will need to sign-up at the Circulation Desk. Internet use is designated for one hour sessions on a first come, first served basis. Time sessions can be extended if there is an unoccupied computer available.

Downloading & Printing

The library utilizes centralized public printing software. Each printed page will cost the user \$0.10. Printed items must be paid for at the time of printing.

Users may download files onto their own personal storage devices. The library is not responsible for computer viruses or for other damages that may result from files downloaded from the Internet.

Wireless Access

Unfiltered wireless Internet access is available to users at Poquoson Public Library. Wireless users agree to abide by the library's Internet Acceptable Use Policy. There is no time limit for wireless access during the library regular hours.

Failure to comply with the Poquoson Public Library's Internet Acceptable Use Policy will result in the suspension or cancellation of Internet privileges, and in some cases, may result in legal proceedings.

Approved by the City Manager December 6, 1999
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