



Edgerton Public Library

101 Albion Street | 608-884-4511 | www.als.lib.wi.us/epl

Computer/Internet Use Policy

The Edgerton Public Library offers access to electronic resources, including those on the Internet. Access is a privilege, not a right, and requires responsibility on the part of the user. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian or have a valid library card that allows computer use in order to use the library computers. The Internet offers unlimited global access to all types of information. Not all sources are accurate, complete, current, legal or philosophically acceptable to all people. Some information may be offensive, controversial, illegal, erroneous, etc. It is the responsibility of the user to select or reject online information based on good judgement and discretion. The Library cannot fully monitor or control the content of the materials on the Internet, which changes rapidly and unpredictably. Parents and guardians of minor children must assume responsibility of their children's use of the Internet just as they must with printed materials or visual materials.

Use of the Internet stations is on a first-come, first-served basis. Time limits are set so all patrons seeking access will have an opportunity to do so.

Acceptable Use

All electronic traffic originating from the computing center, including the public Wi-Fi, will be in accordance with acceptable use standards. Failure to abide by these standards may result in the loss of Internet, computer, or other privileges.

Acceptable use standards include:

1. Respect for the privacy of others.
2. Compliance with copyright law and licensing for individual data and programs.
3. Consideration for the security and functioning of computers, computer networks and systems.

Unacceptable Use

Computing resources may only be used for legal purposes by the public and staff in accordance with the ethical standards of the computing center. Examples of unacceptable use include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Any actions that violate the Library's Patron Code of Conduct Policy.
2. Uses for any purposes that violate applicable federal, state, or local laws including copyright laws.
3. Interfering with or disrupting other computer users, services, or equipment.
4. Attempting to gain or gaining unauthorized entry to other computing information, or communications sources or devices (hacking).
5. Malicious, threatening, harassing or obscene behavior or language.

6. Obscene behavior including public display of obscene materials on computer screens or in hard copy.
7. Misrepresentation of oneself or the Edgerton Public Library.
8. Activities that could cause congestion and disruption of networks and systems.
9. Unsolicited advertising.
10. Accessing, uploading, downloading, transmitting or distributing pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit language or material.

Cautions

The Edgerton Public Library does not filter Internet access. The selection policies used to govern the purchase of physical materials may not apply to information and/or materials accessed electronically. Therefore, the Library recommends the following cautions:

1. Parents are cautioned to monitor their minor children's use of the Internet.
2. Users are cautioned to guard closely the security of personal information, credit card numbers, computer accounts, passwords, and other types of authorizations when using the Internet.
3. Users are cautioned to take steps to protect their systems from computer viruses and other destructive computer programs when downloading programs for use on other computers or devices.
4. Electronic files should not be considered confidential. When required by law, Edgerton Public Library must disclose all files to the extent required by law.
5. Edgerton Public Library is not liable for any direct or indirect and/or punitive damages (including lost data or information) sustained or incurred in connection with the use or unavailability of the system.

Children

The Edgerton Public Library is not responsible for Internet use by children. Parents and legal guardians who are concerned about their children's use of the Internet are expected to provide guidance and supervision while the child is using the Internet. They are the only people in a position to know what content and/or materials are in line with their family's values and beliefs. Children under the age of 16 are required to have parental permission to use the Library's Internet services.

Approved by the Edgerton Public Library Board

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