Greensburg-Hempfield Area Library
Internet and Computer Usage

Policy Number: 4
Date Last Updated: June 28, 2017

Purpose
The Greensburg-Hempfield Area Library's (Library) computer system provides the opportunity to integrate electronic resources from information networks around the world with the Library's other resources. This is aligned with our mission to enrich the lives of our patrons by supporting learning and providing access to information, and interconnection with the community and with the world.

Statement of Policy
The Library is committed to providing public access to computer and Internet resources. This policy is intended to further that mission while addressing necessary issues of patron safety and the protection of our electronic resources. Patrons who do not adhere to the policies listed here will be asked to terminate their usage and/or leave the Library.

ACCESS AND USAGE

1. Patrons must have a valid library card to use the computers and/ or access the Internet.

2. Computer access will not be provided if patron has fines, overdue materials, or is not in good standing at the Library or at other WLN Libraries.

3. Guests from outside of the WLN library system may access computers/Internet by showing a valid photo ID.

PATRON RESPONSIBILITY

1. Patrons agree to comply with the established policies for computer and Internet usage.

2. Patrons may sign up for one hour blocks of computer time. Additional time is granted at the discretion of Library personnel, based on demand for public computers.

3. Patrons may use only one computer at a time.

4. Patrons are prohibited from accessing sites that are obscene, harmful to minors, or contain pornography.

5. Since computers are located in public areas, it is important to remember that privacy cannot be guaranteed.

6. If a patron experiences a problem with the computers, Library personnel should be contacted immediately.

7. Children eleven and under must be accompanied by an adult to use a computer or access the Internet. Although the Library provides Internet content filters, this does not replace the need for parent control. Parents/guardians are responsible for monitoring their children's activities.

8. Not all Internet sources provide accurate, complete, current, and/or age appropriate information; it is the user's responsibility to question and monitor the validity of information.

9. Food and drinks are prohibited in the computer area.
10. Patrons may not load software programs onto Library computers.

LIBRARY RESPONSIBILITY

1. The Library will strive to maintain Internet access via Library computers, networks, and wireless access at all times while the Library is open. Short downtimes do occasionally occur and will be announced ahead of time whenever possible.

2. Library personnel will assist users with Library computers, personal laptops, Ereaders, and other wireless devices when possible.
3. The Library will provide paper for printing.

4. In accordance with federal and state law, all computers at the Library have installed Internet filters to block, as much as possible, access to sites that are obscene, harmful to minors, or contain pornography. The Library makes no guarantee that the filters will block all inappropriate material.

5. Library personnel may periodically observe computer screens for adherence to usage policies and for troubleshooting purposes.

6. To meet requirements of the Digitial Millennium Copyright Act (1998), the Library will provide signs informing patrons that using library computers to copy and distribute copyright protected works may be an infringement of the copyright law (Title 17 U.S. Code).