



Weston Public Library

Internet and Computer Use Policy

Purpose

The Internet is an essential tool in the provision of resources for the Weston community. The Weston Public Library, as part of its mission to provide a broad range of informational, educational and recreational resources, provides Internet access for patrons through publicly accessible computers and through a wireless network. The Weston Public Library makes no guarantee as to the validity, timeliness, or accuracy of the information accessed through the Internet.

In accordance with the American Library Association's *Library Bill of Rights* and *Code of Ethics*, the Weston Public Library does not filter its Internet access nor does it restrict access to the Internet based on origin, age, background, or views.

Internet Use Policy

- The use of the Internet service provided by the Library for any illegal purpose is strictly prohibited.
- The Library's Internet workstations are in public areas and are shared by patrons of all ages. All patrons are asked to refrain from accessing potentially offensive information or images. Viewing, printing, distributing, and/or sending material that is considered "obscene" under the community standards of Connecticut Public Act 04-139 is prohibited.
- Materials obtained or copied from the computers/Internet may be subject to copyright laws, which govern the making of reproductions of copyrighted works. The patron accessing copyrighted material is liable for any infringement according to Title 17, U.S. Code. This includes the downloading and sharing of protected material. Library computers/Internet may not be used to conduct illegal file sharing. Protected materials may include text, photographs, songs, movies, graphic illustrations and other computer software. If inappropriate activity is detected the Town reserves the right to enforce corrective actions.
- The Library does not deny Internet access to minors; however, in accordance with Connecticut Public Act 97-298, children under the age of 12 must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times. The caregiver, and not Library staff, is responsible for monitoring and supervising children in the use of the Library Internet computers.
- The Internet computers provided by the Library and the Library's wireless network should be considered public and open networks. Patrons are advised to use caution when transmitting any personal or confidential information.
- Library Internet computers are available on a first come, first served basis. Library patrons may be limited to 30 minutes of Internet access during peak hours.
- The Library's Internet computers are primarily for research purposes. Library staff assisting patrons have priority in the use of the designated Reference computer.
- Library patrons may not tamper with computer settings, hardware or software on Library Internet computers.
- Library patrons must pay for printouts at the Information Desk prior to leaving the Library. Black and white printouts from the Library's public Internet computers are 10¢/page. Black and white or color printouts from the Library's wireless printer are 25¢/page.
- The Weston Public Library expressly disclaims liability and assumes no responsibility for damages, direct or indirect, arising from the use of its Internet computers or wireless service.

Any Library patron who is found to have violated this policy may be subject to having his or her computer and library privileges suspended or revoked. All users shall be required to compensate the Library for any and all damage caused by any violation of this policy.