

POLICIES OF THE MECHANICVILLE DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY
ELECTRONIC RESOURCES/INTERNET ACCESS POLICY

Approved 10/31/2001
Revised 1/10/2006
Reviewed 8/21/2008
Revised 2013

Need for this Policy:

A policy is needed to set the rules for the Internet use in the Library

General Statement

As a part of the Mechanicville District Public Library's mission to provide multi-media access to educational, cultural and recreational materials to all patrons regardless of age, education level, financial status, or physical ability. Access to the Internet is compatible with the library's endorsement of the Library Bill of Rights, the Freedom to Read statement and other such statements of policy endorsed by the Mechanicville District Public Library, as well as the policies, goals and networks of resources outside of the Library, and it is intended that such access is being made available for research and reference purposes. The Mechanicville District Public Library has no control over these resources, nor does it have complete knowledge of what is on the Internet. The Mechanicville District Public Library does not warrant the information available through its Internet connection to be accurate, authoritative, factually timely or useful, and does not endorse the content of the networked information available. The Library does not monitor, nor have control over the information accessed through the Internet, and cannot be held responsible for the content of the networked information available through its Internet connection. Library users access the Internet at their own discretion. In the best interest of all users, the library request that the use of chat rooms be limited and that all users refrain from accessing inappropriate and pornographic sites.

Policy:

I. Restrictions

A. As with other library materials, the restriction of a child's access to the Internet is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian. With regard to children and teenagers, we recommend that parents or legal guardians take an active interest in and responsibility for their children's online use.

B. Computer Access

1. All Patrons are required to sign into the computers with an up-to-date, fine free Library Card. Please refer to the Circulation Policy for specific card restrictions. Individual use of an Internet Computer will be limited to a period of 60 uninterrupted minutes per session. If no other person is waiting to use the computer, patron may ask for more time. Failure to follow the Library Rules of Conduct allows Library Staff to impose stricter limitations.
2. First time visitors may ask for a guest pass for the use of an Internet Computer

C. Security and Downloading

1. Use of the hard drive for storage of data or downloading of files is absolutely prohibited without the express permission of the Library Director in advance.
2. The Library reserves the right to scan any Disc/Flash Drive a patron wishes to use in the computer. This policy will be strictly enforced and is intended to prevent the introduction of computer viruses into our system.

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3. When downloading, the user is solely responsible for ensuring his/her compliance with any federal patent or copyright laws. It is recommended that patrons continually save their work on their Disc, Flash Drive or any other storage device.
4. A Flash Drive may be purchased from the Library.

D. Prohibited Activities

1. A user is prohibited from using the internet resources access for the following purposes:
2. Distribution of commercial advertising;
3. Propagation of computer viruses; Computer hacking, or interfering with other users, services and equipment;
4. Any use that would violate Federal, State or Local Laws

E. Sanctions

1. A violation of Section C or D, 2 through 4 will subject the user to a suspension from electronic resources access and may subject the user to criminal prosecution.

F. Liability for Use of Electronic Services

1. The Mechanicville District Public Library assumes no responsibility for any claims, liabilities, actions or damages to personal property arising from use of any library owned or leased electronic services, or resulting from the use of data made available through electronic information services.