

LEMONT PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT COMPUTER USE POLICY

The Internet

The Internet is an unregulated medium connecting people and information sources from around the world. Not all sources on the Internet provide information that is current, accurate or complete. A good information consumer evaluates the validity of information found. Some materials on the Internet are considered obscene and/or harmful to minors. The library is unable to control or monitor the content of materials on the Internet. The availability of information does not constitute endorsement of the content by the Lemont Public Library District.

Public Computer Access

- 1) Lemont Public Library District offers access to the Internet to all patrons.
- 2) Children 7 and under who wish to use the Internet must be accompanied at all times by a parent or responsible adult.
- 3) The parent or guardian of any child age 8 to 17 must sign a Parental Consent Form before the child is allowed to use the Internet.
- 4) Internet computers are provided in the children's department for use of children ages 8 to 11 only. It shall be the policy of the Lemont Library Board/District that children's internet computers shall be filtered and said filters on these computers shall not be removed.
- 5) Internet computers are provided in the teen department for the use of patrons ages 12 to 17 only. It shall be the policy of the Lemont Library Board/District that internet computers in the Teen Department shall be filtered and said filters on these computers shall not be removed.
- 6) Gaming software is available on selected computers in the teen department. Software is selected for originality, sustained interest and age appropriateness, and in accordance with the principles outlined in the Library's Materials Selection Policy.
- 7) It shall be the policy of the Lemont Library Board/District that all other computers in the Library shall be filtered, however in the event that an adult patron and or a minor with written consent from its parent and or guardian requests to have unfiltered access to a computer not located in the children or teen sections, access shall be provided as long as said access does not violate the District's previously established Computer Use Policy.
- 8) The Library offers wireless Internet access for patron use. The Library's wireless access points are filtered. There may be times when the user may not be able to access a given site on the Internet due to circumstances beyond the control of the library.
- 9) Library staff will be happy to assist our patrons to access the Internet and other software programs installed on the Library's computers. In the event library staff is not familiar with specific programs, the patron is expected to learn the needed skills. The library offers computer classes to assist patrons wishing to improve their computer skills

- 10) The Lemont Public Library District respects the confidentiality of records, electronic or otherwise, that identify individual users and link them to search strategies, sites accessed, or other specific data about the information they retrieved or sought to retrieve. The library respects its patrons' privacy; however, it is unable to guarantee privacy in a public forum.

Guidelines for Internet Use

- 1) All users of Internet access in Lemont Public Library District are expected to act responsibly, consistent with these guidelines. The viewing or downloading of obscene materials, including but not limited to child pornography, violence, the torture of women, men and children and pedophilia, is not permitted. Any violation of these guidelines, and/or the laws of this state and/or Federal statutes may result in the suspension of library privileges including Internet access and/or reporting to an appropriate legal authority.
- 2) Internet users are not permitted to use the Library's computers to gain unauthorized access to other computers or systems, commonly referred to as "hacking."
- 3) Internet users are not permitted to participate in "chat rooms."
- 4) It is the intention of the Lemont Public Library District to provide its patrons with tools that will enable them to manage their own use of the Internet access provided by the library.
- 5) Data downloaded from the Internet may contain computer viruses. The Library is not responsible for damage to any storage device or computer equipment, or any loss of data, damage, or liability that may occur from the patron's use of library computers.
- 6) Computer users may not download or use their own software on library computers.

Conditions Governing Computer Use:

- 1) Computer Users are expected to familiarize themselves with the library's Computer Guidelines, which are posted at each computer workstation.
- 2) Reservations of one hour are accepted for computer sessions. Users need to sign up for a computer. Continued use of a computer is allowed if no one is waiting.
- 3) All computer users must present their library cards when reserving computer time.

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