

TITLE: Technology Access Policy
POLICY NUMBER: 130
EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/20/2022
REVIEW DATE: May 2023
SUPERSEDES: Internet Access Policy, 3/15/17



Article 1: Purpose

A fundamental mission of the Waukegan Public Library is to provide access to information, regardless of content or format, to everyone in our community. Within this context, the Library provides access to the internet, whether through library computers or wireless access, as well as technology, to meet the informational, recreational, and educational needs of patrons. The same standards of intellectual freedom, privacy and confidentiality endorsed by the Library for traditional resources apply to electronic media, including Internet usage. In order to access library computers or the Library's wireless network (hereafter referred to as electronic resources) a patron must accept the terms of use as stated in this policy.

In accordance with Illinois Library Association best practices, this policy will be reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees.

Article 2: Terms of Use

Section 2.01 - Access to Information

Library patrons have the right to equitable access without charge, as available resources permit. Information transmitted through library electronic resources is unfiltered, unencrypted and unsecured. The Library is not responsible for the quality, validity, or currency of content accessed through library electronic resources. The Library provides access to leased online resources and identifies a broad range of useful and qualified Internet sites through the Library's website.

Subsection 2.01a - Access by Minors

Parents and guardians of minor children must assume responsibility for their children's use of all library resources. Parents and guardians should guide their children in the use of the internet and inform them about materials they should not use. The Library affirms and acknowledges the rights and responsibilities of parents and guardians to monitor and determine their children's access to materials and resources, including those available through the internet. The computers on the main floor do not have filtered access to the internet.

Section 2.02 - Behavioral Expectations

Users may not behave in a manner that is disruptive to others or otherwise in violation of Policy #??? - Library Use. Users not meeting these expectations will be subject to suspension or revocation of their library privileges. Examples of violations include, but are not limited to:

- invading the privacy of other patrons,
- viewing sites that are inappropriate in a public setting,

- playing sounds that are disruptive to other patrons,
- obstructing use of electronic resources through consuming large amounts of system resources,
- making unauthorized entry into or changes to any electronic resource,
- attempting to damage library technology,
- violating copyright laws or software licensing agreements.

Users must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, including laws governing the transmission and dissemination of information via the internet. Users shall not use Library technology to engage in any illegal activities. If users are observed by library staff performing any illegal act, law enforcement authorities will be contacted. The Executive Director has the right to restrict or ban a patron for an amount of time subject to his or her discretion.

Section 2.03 - Time Limits

The Library may reserve the right to limit the amount of time a patron can use electronic resources.

Section 2.04 - Privacy

The Waukegan Public Library is a public place, thereby there is no guarantee of privacy while accessing the internet or using other electronic resources. The Library will not release information of patron's use of specific internet resources except as required by law. Users accept responsibility for any personal information that is sent out through the Library network. The Library urges users to exercise caution when accessing the internet and transmitting/receiving data.

Section 2.05 - Indemnity

The Library shall have no liability for any changes, direct or indirect (i.e. viruses, spyware, etc.) occurring as a result of the use of library electronic resources. The Library is not responsible for the actions of patrons using library electronic resources. Patrons will be held liable for any damage their actions may cause.

Article 3: Staff Assistance

Section 3.01 - Technology Assistance

Library staff can provide basic assistance with library technology. Staff shall not provide direct technical assistance for use of personal electronic resources or equipment. Information that may assist patrons will be provided upon request.

Article 4: Wireless Hotspots

Section 4.01 - Purpose

The Waukegan Public Library may provide a free internet access point or hotspot. These access points will allow users to access the internet from their own devices. All users are expected to use the Library's access point in a legal and responsible manner, consistent with the purposes for which it was provided. In accordance with Article 2, users should not violate federal, state, and local laws, including the

transmission or receiving harmful or copyrighted material. Any restriction or monitoring of a minor's access to the internet using the Library's wireless network is the responsibility of a parent or guardian.

Section 4.02 - Support

The Library staff will provide the service set identifier (SSID) but are not responsible for any changes user make to their computer settings nor guarantee that a user's device will work with the access point.

Policies that are required by statute are automatically amended to reflect any changes in said statute.

By the enactment of this policy, the Board of Trustees of the Waukegan Public Library concurrently rescinds any prior policy or procedure within the Library that is either in conflict with or expansive of the matters addressed in this policy.

Adopted by the Waukegan Public Library Board of Trustees May 18,2022.

Mr. Robb Freeman

President, Waukegan Public Library Board of Trustees