Internet Use Policy of the Easton Library

General Information

The mission of the Easton Library is to secure informational, educational, cultural and recreational materials to meet the needs of the residents of the area served.

Services are provided to patrons of all ages, cultural and economic backgrounds.

It is within this context that the Easton Library offers access to the Internet. The computer provides the opportunity to integrate electronic resources from information networks around the world with the Library's other resources.

The Easton Public Library does not monitor and has no control over the information accessed through the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. Due to the evolving nature of the Internet, policies are subject to change. As with other Library materials, restriction of a child's access to the Internet is the responsibility of the parent/legal guardian.

The Library upholds and affirms the right of each individual to have access to constitutionally protected materials. Thus, adult patrons are responsible for proper use of the Internet for themselves and their children.

Internet Use Rules & Procedures

In an effort to ensure that the use of this medium is consistent with the mission of the library, the following will apply:
- The Internet station will be located where it can be monitored by staff and volunteers for assistance and security.
- All prospective users must read the **Internet Use Policy of the Easton Library** and agree to abide by the policy.
- Users must check in at the circulation desk before using the Internet station and sign in on the clipboard (with a first name or initials).
- The Library may impose reasonable restrictions and conditions on the use of technology available to patrons.
- Failure to use the Internet station appropriately and responsibly may result in revocation of Internet privileges. Library computer and Internet resources may be used only for lawful purposes. Examples of unacceptable purposes include but are not limited to:
    - Attempting to alter or damage computer or network equipment, software configurations, or files belonging to the Library, other users or external networks.
    - Attempting unauthorized entry to the Library's computers or network or external networks.
    - Violation of copyright or communication laws.
    - Violation of software license agreements.

- o Transmission of speech not protected by the First Amendment, such as libel and obscenity.
- The Library strives to balance the rights of patrons to access different information resources with the rights of patrons and staff members to work in a public environment free from harassing sounds and visuals. Patrons are asked to remain sensitive to the fact that they are working in a public environment shared by people of all ages, with a variety of information interests and needs. In order to ensure an efficient, productive computing environment, the Library insists on the practice of cooperative computing. This includes:
  - o Patrons who wish to hear audio content on Library computers should use headphones. (Headphones are available for in-library loan at the circulation desk.)
  - o Respecting the privacy of other users.
  - o Not using computer accounts, access codes, or network identification codes assigned to others.
- Viewing material of a generally inappropriate or offensive nature, including sexually explicit materials, is not allowed. Any patron viewing content inappropriate for a public building will be asked to leave for the day. If the misuse continues the patron will be banned from using the Internet at the Library.
- The Library staff will be the sole arbiter of what constitutes unacceptable content. The library staff reserves the right to end an Internet session at any time if it is creating a disturbance.
- The Internet station is available on a "first come, first served" basis.
- You are limited to a 45-minute block of time on the computer, if there is a queue.
- Patrons may bring USB flash drives or blank CDs/DVDs to store their files.
- Virus scanning software has been installed on the computers.
- Patrons may not load programs onto the Library computer hard drives or run unapproved software from CD-ROMs, flash drives, or any other device.
- The library is not responsible for damage to disks, any loss of data, or damage or liability that may occur from a patron's use of the library's computers.
- Printing is available from each computer. Each page printed is $.20 for black and white or $.25 for color, payable at the circulation desk.
- The library is not responsible for problems or injuries related to the invasion of the user's privacy.

Approved by Board of Trustees: 12/6/2021