

Internet Access Policy

As part of the Exeter Public Library's mission to meet the information, educational, cultural and recreational needs of the community and in response to the advances in technology in the Information Age, the Library is pleased to offer public Internet access with three workstations located near the Reference Desk. All Library users are allowed equal access to resources available on the Internet

Information and resources on the Internet can enhance the materials available at the Library. The Library does not monitor the Internet, or have control over information accessed through the Internet. Not all sites on the Internet provide accurate, complete or current information and access points often change or are unpredictable. Some sites may carry information that a user finds controversial or inappropriate. Library users access the Internet at their own discretion. The Library does not monitor, nor does it have control over the information through the Internet and is not responsible for its content, timeliness, or accuracy. It is not possible for the Library staff to use the same selection criteria, which is utilized to select other Library material. Each individual user must accept responsibility for determining content. Library staff does not monitor or supervise Internet access, except for length of time used.

Parents or guardians, not the Library or its staff, must be responsible for the Internet information selected and/or accessed by their children. Parents are encouraged to come in with their children and supervise Internet access at the Library.

Internet computers will not be used for illegal activity, to access illegal material, including child pornography, or to access materials, which by local community standards, would be considered obscene. The viewing of certain materials in the public library may be considered inappropriate in time, place, or manner. If the Internet searching results in disruption of Library services, or if a patron's behavior, when using the Internet resources becomes inappropriate for a public library setting, the Library reserves the right to end the session. If similar situations continue to occur with a patron or patrons, the Library reserves the right to prohibit the patron or patrons the use of the Library Internet access.

Reference staff will continue to use the Internet as a reference tool and will retrieve information for patrons. The Library's Home Page will offer specific starting points for searching the Internet and recommended sites for adults and children. Staff will also try to assist users with their Internet use and, when time permits, guide them to sites.

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Internet Access Policy - Guidelines

Before patrons may use the Internet, he/she must read and agree to the library's Internet Access Policy.

Patrons may sign-up for a 1-hour block of time per patron, per day. The time period may be extended for 1 more hour and may be used consecutively ONLY if no one else is waiting. If the computers are filled, the patron must wait for an available computer.

Patrons may sign-up in advance. Patrons who are 5 minutes late will forfeit the reserved computer to walk-in patrons.

Users MAY NOT download materials onto the computer's hard drive.

Patrons may use a formatted IBM compatible floppy disk or a key drive to save material. Printers are available for patron use.

Code of Conduct:

A patron using the Library's Internet access:

may NOT use the Internet for illegal purposes.

may NOT access obscene material or child pornography.

may NOT use impolite or abusive language.

may NOT violate the rules of common civil behavior.

may NOT change computer files that do not belong to the patron.

may NOT disturb other Library services.

Any damage to the computer or its peripheral devices will be responsibility of the user. Abuse of the equipment or the service will result in the user being denied further access to the service. Malicious damage may result in prosecution.

The Exeter Public Library reserves the right to terminate an Internet session anytime.