

Bloomfield Public Library Computer Use Policy

Bloomfield Public Library sees access to the Internet as another resource for information. While recognizing that the Internet provides access to a vast array of tools and resources for different age levels and points of view, the library does not act in place of the parent and is not responsible for enforcing any restriction that a parent or guardian may place on a minor's use of this resource. The library will not monitor nor control the information accessed through the Internet and will not be held responsible for its content. Patrons use the computer at their own discretion. Not all resources on the Internet provide accurate, complete or current information. Any inappropriate use will be dealt with at the discretion of the staff.

Patron access

- Regular computer users must have a current, unrestricted public library card.
- A parent or guardian must accompany children under age 5 at all times. Children under age 12 may not access the Internet without adult supervision; the supervising party must be a parent, guardian, or staff member. Staff members will serve as supervisor only at staff convenience.
- Only two people may use the computers at any one time.
- Patrons may use the computers for two sessions per day, signing for one session at a time, renewing only if another is not waiting for a computer.
- Patrons may not save or download files to the computer hard drive.
- Patrons may print using library printers. Printing is 20 cents an page for black and white prints and 50 cents for color.
- E-mail is available on the Internet as long as patrons set up their own accounts and refrain from sending SPAM.

Misuse of computers and Internet access

- The Internet will not be used to make sexist or racist insults or hate messages.
- Profanity and pornography will not be tolerated.
- The Internet will not be used for commercial gain or ventures.

- Chain letters or pyramid schemes are illegal in most cases and will not be allowed.
- Transmission of libelous material is illegal and senders may be prosecuted.
- We accept and abide by the U.S. Copyright law and the Berne Convention. Illegal distribution of software and other copyright material is not permitted. Patrons may not upload or copy text, graphics sound files or software without permission of the copyright holder.
- Internet access will not be used to infiltrate other computer systems (Hacking).
- Knowingly spreading worms and viruses will not be tolerated.
- Obtaining the passwords and files of other patrons, or otherwise violating the privacy of other patrons will not be tolerated.

Consequences of misuse

Any intentional damage to either the software or hardware on library computers will result in immediate and permanent suspension of the right to use the computers. Viewing of illegal materials, such as child pornography, will result in permanent suspension and possible prosecution.

Violation of the rules of conduct will result in the following suspension of privileges:

First offense: Suspension of computer privileges for the period of one month.

Second offense: Suspension of computer privileges for the period of three months.

Third offense: Suspension of computer privileges for the period of one year.

Final offense: Permanent suspension of privileges.