



## ***Internet Use Policy***

The James Blackstone Memorial Library offers free Internet access to the public through networked and wireless devices. The Internet allows access to ideas, information and commentary from around the world and is an unregulated medium. It offers access to material that may be personally, professionally, and culturally enriching to individuals of all ages, while also enabling access to material that may be offensive, disturbing, and/or illegal, inaccurate or incomplete. The Library does not monitor or control the content of material available through this medium, but **expects appropriate use** in a public and open environment. The Library cannot be held accountable for unreliable, inaccurate or incomplete information received on-line, and as a result users are advised to evaluate the validity of all information accessed via the Internet. The Library upholds the principles of intellectual freedom and the public's right to know by providing people of all ages with access and guidance to information that reflect all points of view.

- Computers are available to the public with a valid library card.
- Guest passes are available as a courtesy for visitors to the library who do not have a library card.
- Computers are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The computers in the reference room are available for an hour at a time; the computers in the rotunda are available for 15 minutes. Use time on all computers are automatically extended in 15 minute increments unless there is a reservation request made on the reservation workstation. Reservations are necessary when all computers are in use.
- Reserved time will be held for 10 minutes, after which the computer management system will release the reservation to the next patron in line.
- No more than two persons may share the use of an Internet workstation at the same time.
- All users must use headphones or earbuds when listening to audio content, and must keep the volume low so as not to disturb others.
- Library staff is available to help users log in and find information, but cannot provide extensive one on one instruction.
- Printing is available at a cost established by the library and posted before printing. Information may also be downloaded to your own storage media. The library is not responsible for any damage to your data, storage media, or computer resulting in the use of library equipment.

- Any device that requires software installation to use is not permitted on library computers.
- If you experience hardware or software problems while you are using the computer, please ask a staff member for help. Please do not attempt to solve the problem yourself.
- The library reserves the right to modify and change the guidelines, conditions of use, and procedures at any time.
- Parents or guardians, not the Library or its staff, are responsible for the Internet information selected and/or accessed by their children. (See Child Behavior and Supervision Policy.) Parents are encouraged to read: [netsmartz.org](http://netsmartz.org), published by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

### **Wireless Network User Agreement**

- Wireless connections are not secure. Users assume the risk should they choose to transmit credit card information, passwords or any other sensitive personal or business information over the Library's wireless network. Anti-virus and security protection are the responsibility of the patron.
- The Library is not responsible for any loss of data, or for theft or damage to personal equipment or software.
- Library staff cannot provide technical assistance on using the Library's wireless network beyond checking the library's equipment.
- There is no guarantee that a wireless connection can be made or maintained.
- The Library assumes no responsibility for any alterations or interference with a device's configurations, operation or data files resulting from connection to the WiFi network.
- The Library reserves the right to terminate a wireless Internet session at any time.

**Use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of this privilege. Inappropriate use includes, but is not limited to:**

- Viewing material or performing any activity online that violates federal, state or local laws or regulations, including those regarding accessing, viewing, printing and distributing obscenity or child pornography.
- Viewing or accessing pornography.
- Hacking into the library computer system or any other computer system.
- Mishandling, damaging or attempting to damage computer equipment or software; tampering with computer settings; installing any viruses or malicious programs on library computers.
- Interfering with system operations, integrity or security.
- Attempting to gain or gaining access to another person's files or authorization code.
- Engaging in any activity that is deliberately offensive or creates an intimidating or hostile environment.
- Violating copyright laws and software licensing agreements or the policies of the individual websites that you view.

*Adopted by the Library Board of Trustees September 3, 2014*