



Internet Safety Policy

Adopted 6/17/02, Revised and Approved 6/1/04, Revised and Approved 8/13/12

Formerly entitled Electronic Access Policy

It is the policy of the Fergus Falls Public Library to provide free access to information to users of all ages, while attempting to protect them from unwanted exposure to visually depicted or written obscenity and child pornography and to restrict access by minors to materials harmful to minors.

In order to offer such protection, and to comply with Public Law 106-554, Title XVII, the library has installed filtering software which blocks access to known illegal or inappropriate sites. The user should be aware, however, that no device or software will block every inappropriate site, and sites may be blocked that should not be. The library does not accept responsibility for these incidents. If the user encounters sites that may be illegal, staff should be notified immediately.

Requests for disabling the filtering software for purposes of bona fide research or other lawful purposes should be directed to the library staff.

Users wishing to access the Internet via a public library device or personal device at the Fergus Falls Public Library must agree to comply with the following Rules of Conduct:

1. Devices will not be used for illegal activity, to access illegal materials, or to access materials that by local community standards would be considered obscene.
2. Users will obey copyright laws and licensing agreements.
3. Users will not make any attempt to gain unauthorized access to restricted library or Internet files or networks, or to damage or modify equipment or software at the library or at another location by using library connections.
4. Users will not disclose, use, or disseminate personal information regarding minors without written authorization of the parent or legal guardian of the minors involved.

Library employees are authorized to take prompt and appropriate actions to enforce the Code of Conduct, and/or to prohibit use by persons who fail to comply with the Internet Acceptable Use Policy as stated or implied herein. To preserve their own personal safety, users should avoid disclosing personal information over the Internet. Parents are responsible for their children's use of the Library's resources and facilities. Parents are requested to monitor their children's Internet use.

Access:

- Users must use the valid Viking Library System card issued to him/her to use the library's devices. Other Minnesota library cards may be used once they are entered on the VLS system. A special card or guest pass may be issued to visitors depending on their length of stay. Proof of address must be shown to issue temporary use cards.
- Access sessions will be limited to 10 or 60 minutes depending on workstation used, unless otherwise authorized by library staff. Users are limited to two 10 minute sessions per day on designated express computers and one 60 minute session per day on designated public access computers.
- Only one 60-minute access session will be reserved at any time. If a previously reserved period of time has not been claimed within 10 minutes, the reserved period is forfeited and others may use that time.

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- Users must end their session and leave the terminal when asked to do so by authorized library staff, even if they have not completed their access session.

Use:

- Installation, downloading, or modification of software is prohibited.
- No more than two persons may simultaneously use a computer, unless prior arrangements have been made with staff.
- By mutual agreement, two persons may share one access session as long as their behavior or conversation does not disturb other users or library staff.
- Prompt payment is required by users who incur charges for printing or other authorized fees.
- Users will respect the privacy of others, and will refrain from attempting to view or read material being used by others.

I have read the above policy, and I agree to the terms. I acknowledge that failure to follow these rules of conduct may result in loss of Internet privileges.