RAY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY INTERNET USE POLICY

Individuals desiring Internet access must read the Internet Policy

The Ray Township Public Library is pleased to offer access to the wealth of information resources available on the Internet. This opportunity expands a patron's access beyond the library's traditional collection and resources.

The library's public access Internet computers are for activities relating to accessing information for reference, research, and recreation.

The Internet is a global network that is not totally governed by any single entity and, therefore, the Ray Township Public Library is unable to monitor or control the content of the materials on the Internet (beyond the filters for underage use).

The Ray Township Public Library does not censor access to the materials or protect patrons from information they might find offensive; it requires that patrons confine their use of the Internet to searches that are appropriate for a public setting.

Individuals 19 years of age or older, or minors who are accompanied by a parent or guardian, can request an unfiltered terminal. Parents are responsible for the actions of their minor children. Minors who are not accompanied by their parent or guardian must use a computer with filtering software.

In offering Internet accessibility, the library cannot control access points that change rapidly and are unpredictable. The Library assumes no responsibility for the quality, accurateness, or timeliness of any Internet resource. Internet users should personally evaluate the validity of any resource as they would printed publications, since not all sources on the Internet may be accurate, complete, or up to date.

Internet stations will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Individuals will be limited to 20 minutes at an Internet station. If there are no others waiting to use the computers this limit may be extended at the discretion of the library staff.

Printing/copying is available in black and white for $ .15 a sheet, or in color for $ .25 a sheet.

Staff Assistance: Staff will assist library users in getting started on the Internet. However, the Library cannot guarantee that staff will be available to assist users at all times the Library is open.

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RULES FOR USE

Downloading to disks and memory sticks (and not the hard drive) is acceptable on the filtered computer (which has a security software) only.

Users are expected to use the Internet in a responsible manner, consistent with the educational and informational purposes for which they are provided. Responsible use includes:

1. Observing legal copyright license and protection to programs and data.

2. Not sending, receiving or displaying text or graphics that may be reasonably construed by other Library patrons as objectionable.

3. Not using resources that are unauthorized, illegal or unethical. These include, but are not limited to:

    - Harassing, libeling or slandering other users.
    - Destroying or damaging equipment, software or data belonging to the Library or other users.
    - Engaging in unsolicited advertising (spamming).
    - Hacking (breaking into or out of any system) or violation of computer system security.
    - Spreading computer viruses.
    - Accessing Chat Rooms.
    - Disrupting or any unauthorized monitoring of electronic communications.
    - Use of computer accounts, access codes, or network identification numbers assigned to others.
    - Users may not display, view or download graphics or content that is obscene
    - Sending, receiving, or displaying text or graphics that are legally defined by State and Federal law as obscenity or child pornography. Actions that violate State or Federal law will be prosecuted. (Michigan P.A. 212 of 2000).
    - Violating software license agreements.
    - Violating network usage and regulations.
    - Violating another user's privacy.

4. Not attempting to modify or gain access to files or passwords or seeking unauthorized access to any computer system.

5. Not defacing, dismantling or tampering with computer hardware.

6. Not using for commercial purposes.

7. Not instant messaging (IM).

Violators of the Internet-Public Use Policy may lead to the suspension or loss of the privilege to have Internet access at the Library. Violations of the policies described above for illegal and unethical use will be dealt with in a serious and appropriate manner. Illegal acts involving library-computing resources may also be subject to prosecution.

Revisions Approved December 12, 2011