



Name: Computer and Internet Use Policy

Approved: May 24, 2021, by Franklin Public Library Board of Trustees

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## Policy

As part of Franklin Public Library's (FPL) mission to provide abundant opportunities to learn, explore and connect, FPL provides computers connected to the Internet, as well as free wireless Internet access (Wi-Fi) for public use.

**Internet Access:** The quality, accuracy and timeliness of information on the Internet varies from site to site, and sites may be controversial or of a mature nature. FPL does not monitor, has no control over, and does not accept responsibility for material in any sources on the Internet. Patrons access the Internet at their own discretion and are responsible for the results of their searches.

**Responsibilities of Users:** FPL requires patrons to respect the rights and sensibilities of other patrons. Some Internet sites are inappropriate for viewing in a public setting. Patrons must refrain from the use of sounds and visuals that may disrupt the ability of other patrons to use the Library and its resources.

**Internet Safety:** FPL currently restricts access by minors under the age of 12 to inappropriate matter with the use of filtering software on the computers in the Children's Area. FPL uses third party filtering software and has no control over what matter is and is not accessible on the Children's computers. Children 12 and older may use the computers in the adult area. Parents and guardians are solely responsible for supervising their children's Internet sessions. Library staff cannot monitor parental restrictions. A parent/guardian may request their juvenile child under the age of 16 not be allowed use of the Internet at FPL.

**Copyright:** U.S. Copyright law (Title 17, U.S.C.) prohibits the unauthorized reproduction or distribution of copyrighted materials, except as permitted by principles of fair use. Patrons may not copy or distribute electronic materials (including electronic mail, text, images, programs or data) without the explicit permission of the copyright holder. Any responsibility for any consequences of copyright infringement lies with patrons; FPL expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility resulting from such use.

**Hardware:** Patrons are not permitted to store or download any data to FPL's computer network. Patrons tampering with any Library hardware or networked programs will be denied access to Library computers in the future, and may lose their Library privileges.

**Disclaimer:** Patrons access the FPL computer hardware or its network at their own risk. The Library is not responsible for equipment malfunction, loss of data, any damages to a patron's data or equipment, or electronic transactions of any type that are related to the public use of Library computer resources.

**Illegal and Unacceptable Uses:** FPL computers or WiFi network may only be used for legal purposes. Examples of unacceptable uses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Displaying sexually explicit or pornographic materials;
- Harassing others or violating their privacy;
- Libeling, slandering or maliciously offending others;
- Violating copyright laws or program licensing agreements;
- Attempting to crash, degrade performance or gain unauthorized access to any computer systems and networks;
- Damaging equipment, software or data belonging to FPL.

**Privacy:** Patron privacy and confidentiality is maintained in accordance with Section 43.30 of the Wisconsin State Statutes and FPL's Privacy Policy.

**Enforcement:** Failure to comply with this policy will result in reduced or eliminated access to the Library's technology.