Internet Use Policy

Commerce Township Community Library

Approved September 9, 2014

The Commerce Township Community Library seeks to make a variety of sources of information, education and entertainment available to its patrons. One of the most prevalent sources in current use is the Internet. The Library offers high-speed access to the Internet. It is a format which strongly supports information-seeking activities at all levels, supplements formal educational efforts and provides a variety of entertainment functions.

 Specifically, 'Internet use' is defined as electronically accessing the network of databases and websites which are external to those resources held by the Library.

The Internet is an unregulated medium which in addition to providing information that is personally, professionally and culturally enriching also enables access to material that is illegal and to materials that some may find offensive. In striving to provide a positive experience for all library users, access to explicit material will be blocked by library filters. The filtered access to the Internet is accomplished by the use of software, either at the computer or server level, which restricts access to explicit information. The library understands there are no perfect filters. With any filter it is possible that information which is intended to be blocked is not blocked, and that which is expected to be made available becomes filtered. The library is not responsible for failures of the filtering software.

Internet computers may be used by any library patron. Children under twelve years of age must use the computers in the children's section of the library. Patrons aged twelve to seventeen must use the young adult computers. Adults are to use the computers in the adult area except when supervising a minor's use whereas they should use a computer in the children's section of the library.

The Library has configured the computers to retain no user history, in an effort to protect the confidentiality of its patrons.

Patrons accessing the Internet should be aware that some material is copyrighted and not intended for public use without consent from the owning entity. It is the patron's responsibility to be aware of the display of any notices concerning the copyright of information on the Internet, and to respect the federal copyright laws.

The establishment of sign-ups and time limits is at the Library's discretion, based on the pattern of usage of the public computers, and may range from no limits to a more restrictive usage within specific computer clusters.

Internet access may be unavailable at times due to technical difficulties.

WiFi

The Commerce Township Community Library allows for personal computer equipment to access the internet via a wireless network throughout the building and surrounding area 24/7.

Persons utilizing the wireless connection agree to comply with all provisions of the current Commerce Township Community Library Internet policies.

The Library's wireless connection is filtered for explicit content utilizing the same methods as library computers. Use of the wireless connection is done at the patron's own risk. By using this connection, patrons acknowledge that security errors and hacking are an inherent risk associated with any wireless service. For that reason, patrons expressly agree that they knowingly assume such risk, and further agree to hold the Library harmless from any claim or loss arising out of, or related to, any such instance of hacking or other unauthorized use or access into the patron's computer.

The Library accepts no responsibility for any software downloaded and/or installed, email opened, or sites accessed while patrons are on the wireless internet connection. Any damage done to the patron's equipment or self from viruses, identity theft, spyware, plug-ins, or other Internet-borne programs is the sole responsibility of the patron; and the patron indemnifies and holds harmless the Library from any such damage.

The Library accepts no responsibility regarding the ability of patron owned equipment to connect to the wireless network.

Unauthorized downloading of copyrighted material(s) is strictly forbidden and will result in suspension or revocation of Library privileges and may result in a formal notification to the appropriate local law enforcement office.

Printing from a laptop or mobile device to the libraries printers is available during hours the library is open.