

Internet Use Policy

Revised and approved 06/11/2024

Hudson Area Public Library District provides free and equal access to the internet via public computers and a network patrons may connect to with their own device(s). The library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from use of the internet or information obtained through the internet. Providing access to information is not an endorsement of the content viewed by patrons.

Disclaimers

The library does not monitor or control the content of the material accessed through the internet and cannot be held responsible for its contents. Patrons should recognize that in addition to valuable and reliable information, the internet contains inaccurate, dated, incomplete and controversial material. Patrons are responsible for evaluating the accuracy of material found on the internet.

The library disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or use of information obtained through the internet. Patrons are responsible for any commercial transactions made while using the library's internet connection.

The library employs antivirus software, but cannot guarantee that its website, server, or any other website accessed by internet users is free of viruses or other harmful components. Public computer stations cannot provide support for all file types, browser plug-ins, or internet technologies.

Parent and Guardian Responsibility

The library does not use filtering software on its computers. Parents or guardians are responsible for the Internet information selected and/or accessed by their children. Children who use the Internet unsupervised may be exposed to inappropriate or disturbing information and images. Parents are encouraged to discuss the use of the Internet in relation to family values and boundaries with their children and to monitor their children's use of the Internet.

Privacy

The library will not release information on the use of specific internet resources by members of the public except as required by law or as necessary for the proper operation of the library.

The internet is not a secure medium. Information is not necessarily secure against interception. The library's computers are in a public area which must be shared by library users of all ages, backgrounds and sensibilities. Others may be involuntarily exposed to what is being viewed, and patrons should not have an expectation of privacy.

Rules and Responsibilities for the Public

Patrons should refrain from:

- Using the library's computers for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other rights of third parties. Computer users will be responsible for knowledge of all applicable federal, state, and local laws for which they may be held in violation.
- Viewing illegal, offensive, or harmful matter, including but not limited to pornography.
- Downloading or installing any software. Only software owned and installed by the library may be used on its computers.
- Harming computers or systems through the use of viruses or other malicious acts.
- Mishandling, damaging, or making any attempt to modify library computer equipment or software. Patrons are responsible for damage to equipment beyond normal wear and tear.
- Interfering with system operations, integrity, or security.

Patrons are responsible for:

- Complying with all rules outlined in the library's Code of Conduct Policy.
- Complying with requests by library staff members to refrain from or change any disruptive behavior.
- Using headphones when listening to audio content so as to not disturb others.

Printing

There may be a charge for printing from public computers. The charge is posted at each computer station.

Computer Use Policy Violations

Violations of the Computer Use Policy may result in removal from the library grounds and/or suspension of library privileges. Violation of federal, state, or local law may result in arrest and prosecution.