



## **Blossburg Memorial Library Computer and Internet Use Policy**

The Blossburg Memorial Library offers free Internet access to library patrons and/or visitors. Through the Library's time management software system, patrons access the computers using their library cards. A visitor may request a guest pass at the Circulation Desk. Use of another patron's library card is prohibited. A user must use his/her own library card only. Access to the Internet will be available during normal library hours. Adults and children may use a desktop computer for a 60-minute session. This time period may be extended if there is no one else waiting.

No more than two people may use a computer workstation at one time.

No beverages are allowed at the computer stations. Snacks are permitted; you are asked to clean up after yourself and not to spill on computer equipment.

All library fines over \$5.00 must be paid and overdue materials returned before using a public computer or the Internet.

All five patron desktop computers are hooked up to a black and white printer behind the front desk. Pages can be printed for 25 cents a page. Staff or volunteers will assist in printing when needed.

When a parent or legal guardian applies for a library card for a minor, the adult consents that the minor has access to the computers and Internet.

Although the Library staff and volunteers are unable to provide computer training, they will help patrons initially log on and open an Internet browser.

The computers are filtered to block visual depictions of obscenity, violence, child pornography, and material that is harmful to minors, but the Library also reminds parents to monitor their own children's use of Library materials and resources. Patrons should recognize that the use of the Internet is not private and should be diligent in protecting their e-mail, documents, bank accounts, social media accounts, and other private information.

In providing public access to the Internet, the Library recognizes the importance of the First Amendment's ideal of freedom of speech and press, and the access to information and ideas which that freedom implies. Library staff and volunteers will not monitor, control, or restrict access to equipment or the range of information available within the limits of state and/or federal law. Parents and legal guardians who wish to limit the access of their own children to the internet beyond the range of the filters, should personally oversee their child's use of the Internet and other

forms of electronic information. Minors who visit the library without a parent or legal guardian are responsible for their own decisions and behaviors.

State and/or federal law governing unlawful activities in the use of the library's computer resources apply. "Hacking," and issues of privacy, copyright, licensing, trademark, libel, obscenity, and pornography are subject to applicable state and/or federal law. As the Pennsylvania Criminal Code, 18 PA C.S.5903 states: "Display of sexually explicit graphics on any viewing screen is a violation of the Code, and is strictly prohibited."

Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors is prohibited.

Users may not attempt unauthorized entry into other computers or networks, or disrupt or interfere with other computer or network users, services or equipment. Users are asked to respect the privacy of other users.

Misuse of the computer or Internet will result in the loss of computer privileges, potential loss of library privileges, and possible prosecution. Such misuse includes, but is not limited to, violations of the Blossburg Memorial Library Computer and Internet Use Policy, the Blossburg Memorial Library Wireless Internet Acceptable Use Policy, damaging/theft or attempting to damage or steal equipment, interfering with library operations, and altering or attempting to alter the library's computer settings.

The Library's computers and Internet services are for educational, informational, and recreational purposes. The Internet is a resource that enables Library patrons and visitors to connect to information beyond that contained in the Library's collection. Currently, however, it is an unregulated medium. While it does contain a wealth of materials that are personally, professionally and culturally enriching to people of all ages, it also allows access to some materials that may be offensive, illegal and/or inaccurate. The Blossburg Memorial Library has no control over materials obtained on the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content.

Approved by the Blossburg Memorial Library  
Board of Trustees on April 16, 2019