Bridgman Public Library
Computer and Internet Policy

The Bridgman Public Library provides computers and Internet access to patrons in service of its mission to provide resources that encourage lifelong learning. The Computer and Internet Policy sets forth the guidelines for the use of the Library's computers and Internet connection.

Disclaimer

The Bridgman Public Library does not monitor and has no control over information obtained through the Internet and cannot be responsible for its content. Not all sites provide accurate, complete or current information, and some sites may carry information that a patron finds controversial or inappropriate.

The Library assumes no responsibility for any damages, direct or indirect, arising out of or in connection with access to the Internet, including any loss of data, privacy, or any harm or damage to any personal software, equipment or information; any asserted responsibility or potential liability is expressly disclaimed.

The Library complies with the Michigan Privacy Act, 1982 PA 455, MCL 397.606, the Children's Internet Protection Act, and the United States Copyright Law.

Filtering

The Bridgman Public Library uses filtering software to protect against access to obscenity, child pornography, or other materials that are harmful to minors.   The Library believes that viewing and accessing pornography is inconsistent with the welcoming and comfortable environment it promotes, and so violates the Library's Rules For Use Policy. Patrons should be aware that no filtering software is 100% accurate, nor is it a substitute for parental judgment and oversight. The Library's filters may be disabled or a site unblocked under the following conditions:

Disabling Filters

Adults (18 years or older) may request use of a computer on which the filtering software has been disabled or turned off.   The request can be made to staff at the circulation desk at the time of registration. Minors (17 years and younger) may use a computer that has the filtering software disabled when accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Unblocking Sites

A patron of any age may request library staff unblock a site that they believe the filtering software has falsely identified as obscene, pornographic, or harmful to minors.

Privacy

The Library will not release information on the use of specific Internet resources by patrons except as required by law.

Unacceptable Use

1. Use for any purposes that violate applicable federal, state, or local law.
2. Use by minors to access inappropriate matter on the Internet, material which is obscene, child pornography, or sexually explicit material harmful to minors.
3. Use by adults to access material which is obscene or child pornography.
4. Use that compromises the safety and security of minors when using email, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications.
5. Use that discloses personal identification information about a minor or others.
6. Use that attempts to gain unauthorized entry to communications sources (hacking).
7. Use that damages or alters the setup of the Library's computers.
8. Use that congests the Library's network or uses a lot of system resources.
9. Use that intrudes on the rights of others, including malicious, threatening, harassing, or obscene behavior or language.

Procedures for Use

Library computers are available to all patrons. A library card is not required. All patrons must acknowledge and agree to this policy on-screen at the beginning of each computer or Internet session.

Printing is managed by library software. Patrons must pay for their copies at the desk before printing.

Computer use is limited to 30 minutes. Requests for more time will be honored if no one is waiting.

Violations of this policy may result in the loss of computer privileges.