

6.6 Technology & Internet Use

The library offers public use of the Internet as part of the Library's mission to provide access to services and information in a variety of formats, which promotes lifelong learning, enhances quality of life, and broadens the horizons for all citizens of Cannon County. The internet allows users to access ideas, information, and thought from around the world. Computers are available for use with a one hour limit, however, when there is no one waiting to use the computer, than the time limit may be extended. Finally, in order to offer quality Internet service to all of our patrons, potential users must agree to the following acceptable use policy.

6.6.1 Acceptable Use Policy

All library users are expected to abide by the Library's Rules of Conduct. Illegal use of the library Internet services and computer stations is prohibited. By using library computers and/or Internet services, library users agree that staff has the authority to make final determinations regarding rule infractions. The use of the Library's computer workstations and Internet services is a privilege.

The following activities could be considered cause for suspension of computer and / or Internet privileges or cause for denial of service:

- Users must accept all U. S. Copyright laws and licensing agreements pertaining to software, files, and other resources obtained via the Internet. The Library expressly disclaims any responsibility resulting from copyright infringement by the library user.
- Downloading images or files from the Internet to the Library computer's hard drive is strictly prohibited. Individuals may bring a disk or flash drive for personal storage of downloaded information. Unknown files will be purged from the system. The library does not allow downloading to their computers.
- Violation of local, state, and federal laws using equipment and/or Internet service in the library to access, disseminate or exhibit material that may be consider obscene by community standards, child pornography, or harmful to minors as defined by Tennessee Code § Title 39- 17- 9.
- Internet users shall not place or view unlawful information or images on the system;
- Internet users shall not alter or place files or programs on the Library's computers;
- Internet users shall not engage in any of the following activities: sending any files or portions of files likely to result in damage to the recipient's databases or networks or the library's databases or networks, upload a worm, virus, or other harmful form of programming or vandalism; participate in hacking activities or any form of unauthorized access to other computers, networks, or information systems.

- Internet users shall not use another person's library card or fraudulently use duplicate library cards or guest passes for computer access;
- Internet users shall not circumvent computer management software or security measures;
- Internet users shall not cause excessive congestion of the network or interfere with the computer use of other library users;
- Internet users shall not vandalize or damage library equipment.
- Internet users are prohibited from using the library computers to compromise the safety and security of minors when using e-mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Such use includes, but is not limited to, giving private information about one's self or others, arranging a face-to-face meeting with someone one has met on the Internet without the permission of a parent or legal guardian.

Other Acceptable Use Rules

1. Log on using your own library card or guest pass number and promptly give up the computer when your time has elapsed.
2. Promptly give up the computer when requested by staff.
3. There is a charge of 10¢ per page for printing black and white from public computers. Color printouts are not available. Pages printed in error, or pages not needed after printing will still be paid for by the customer.
4. Stop viewing any site that creates a hostile environment for other library users and staff.
5. Use headphones when listening to audio content, and keep volume low so you do not disturb others.
6. As a courtesy to others, log off completely when you are finished with your session. This also protects the privacy of your search.
7. Do not use another's identification, bar code or pin number, with or without permission, to sign up or log on to a computer.

6.6.2 Computer Access

Computer access is available for all Cannon County residents, as well as those visiting Cannon County. Computers are monitored by time-limit software; however, time will be extended for any individual who requests an extension provided there is no one waiting to use the computers

It is essential that each user of Internet and computer services recognize the responsibilities that stem from having access to vast services, sites, people and quantities of uncensored information. Users are reminded to be considerate of others when viewing material. Cannon County Public Library cannot fully protect library users from encountering images or ideas that may be considered controversial. Not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, complete or current information. Users need to analyze information on the Internet with the same or greater scrutiny that they apply to other sources of information.

Cannon County Public Library recognizes and affirms the rights and responsibilities of parents/guardians/caregivers to control the use of library materials and resources by their own children. The Internet is an unregulated medium. Cannon County Public Library cannot guarantee restriction of access to sites by minors. The responsibility to monitor children, in regards to Internet and computer use, lies with the parent or legal guardian. The library is committed to making reasonable efforts within constitutional limits to prevent minors from viewing materials that could be deemed harmful; therefore children under the age of 10 years must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian to access the Internet.

All internet resources accessible through the library are provided to all users. There is no age limit for use of any materials provided on the Internet. Children have access to the same resources as adults. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian to decide what resources are appropriate for their children.

6.6.4 Time Limits

To access the Internet a customer must use his or her own library card number. A visitor who does not have a library card may receive an Internet guest pass by giving their name or showing identification. Visitors under the age of 16 need not show identification.

Each individual is limited to one hour session per day of Internet access and must use his or her own library card number or guest pass number to log in. Exceptions will be made for test proctoring. During periods when demand for computers is low, staff members will allow time extensions.

6.6.3 Wireless Internet Access

Cannon County Library System provides free wireless access to its patrons. Users who have personal electronic devices (laptops, PDAs, hand-held games, etc.) with wireless Internet cards may be able to access a wireless connection from inside the library, as well as the Library parking lot. Other public wireless networks may be accessible in some library areas as well.

The Library provides wireless access inside the library building during normal library operating hours and in the Library parking lot from 5:30 a.m. through 10:00 p.m. However, high demand, reliability of technology and other factors may affect access. For these reasons the Library cannot guarantee the availability or reliability of this service.

RULES GOVERNING USE OF WIRELESS COMPUTERS

- Signal strength may vary throughout the library. Please move to a different location within the library if you are having trouble securing a connection or staying online.
- Library staff cannot perform repairs or troubleshoot your equipment.

- Wireless connections are not secure; use caution when transmitting personal information.
- Be prepared to use battery power. Do not plug into an outlet where you block aisles, exits or access to materials or equipment.
- The library has limited electrical outlets available for public use in designated areas.
- The library cannot guarantee your equipment will work with the library's network.
- Do not leave your equipment unattended. The library is not responsible for equipment that is lost or stolen.
- The library printer will not print from a wireless laptop. To print from the wireless network, you will need to save your work and print from a Library PC. Black and white copies are ten cents.
- Please access Internet applications with sound using your own headphones.

Specifically, as a wireless Internet user, you must:

- Stop viewing any site that creates a hostile environment for other library users and staff if a staff member asks you to stop.
- Follow the rules of the websites you visit.
- Never harass others with prints, images or messages.
- View and print only legal material and conduct only legal activity.
- Make appropriate choices about the sites you view when others are present, since the library is a public place that serves children as well as adults.
- Use sound-muffling headphones or mute sound to avoid disturbing others.
- Never block aisles, exits, access to library materials, exhibit cases or other resources.
- Wireless users who do not follow the rules for wireless Internet use will be prohibited from further use. Additional action may be taken.

6.6.4 Internet Safety

In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), software filters have been placed on all computer stations with Internet access. Internet users 17 or older may request that staff remove the filter when using the computer stations to provide access for bona fide research or other lawful purposes. The filtering software will not be used to keep records of what sites a patron visits; the only purpose of this software is to block pornographic images. ***Library users who obtain unfiltered Internet access are not excused from any provisions or restrictions of this policy.***