



Social Media Policy

Effective Date: October 18, 2023

Social Media is described as Internet-based platforms which allow for interactions between individuals or the broadcast of content to the wider world and which are far more interactive than traditional broadcast media.

The Sharon Public Library participates in social media to communicate information about library services and resources, and to engage with their communities. The Sharon Public Library intends to use social media not as a designated public forum, but as a means to respond, when appropriate, to informational queries regarding programming, resources, or materials within the library. The Social Media accounts of the Sharon Public Library are the speech of the Library. Library-sponsored sites include applications such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, TikTok, etc. and others. Other applications may be introduced in the future.

Postings are monitored by members of the staff, who are responsible for various content.

The Library reserves the right to monitor content before or after it is posted on social media.

Postings on the Library's social media account that contain the following are prohibited:

- Commercial or self-promotion or petitions;
- Comments or links to unrelated content;
- Content that promotes, fosters, or perpetuates discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, sex, gender, marital or family status, military status, status with regard to source of income, national origin, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation;
- Profane, obscene, violent or pornographic language or content
- Organized political activity;
- Defamatory or personal attacks, insults, or threatening language;
- Plagiarized or copy-righted material, or any other conduct that violates a legal ownership interest of any other party;
- Potentially libelous comments;
- Private, personal information published without consent;
- Spam or bot activity (a software application programmed to execute specific tasks as part of another computer program);
- Information that may compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems;
- Content or conduct in violation of any federal, state or local law, rule or regulation;
- Conduct or encouragement of illegal activity; or
- Any other content deemed inappropriate by the Library.

The Library is not obligated to take any actions, and will not be responsible or liable for content posted by any subscriber in any forum, message board, or other areas within its services. The Library assumes no liability regarding any event or interaction involving patrons using library-sponsored social media services.

When the Sharon Public Library collaborates with local organizations and nonprofits, it does not guarantee that every request for sharing and/or cross-promotion on our social media accounts will be possible. The Library prioritizes its own content and marketing objectives.