

# Mill Memorial Library

## Public Access Computer/Internet Policy

To fulfill its mission of providing public access to information of all types in a wide range of formats, the Mill Memorial Library provides access to Computer and Internet resources. We ask for your patience and cooperation in using the Computers/Internet by abiding by the rules of Internet Etiquette and our Library's Computer/Internet Policy.

The Mill Memorial Library offers public access to computers to all library patrons in good standing, under the following provisions:

1. Patron must sign a User's Agreement and abide by its guidelines
2. Patron, if under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian sign a **Permission Form for Internet Use**.
3. Patron will submit a valid borrower's card to the Circulation Desk Attendant for each signed in session using the a public access computer. The card will be returned when the computer session is completed.
4. Walk-in patrons may use computer resources by providing some form of valid identification if not a permanent resident eligible for a Luzerne County Library Card. Patrons eligible for a Luzerne County Library Card are obliged to register for a card before using the library's Computer/Internet resources.

**Disclaimer:** The Internet, while it can be a valuable resource tool, contains some material of a controversial nature. The library staff cannot control access points, which often change rapidly and unpredictably. The Library expressly prohibits any use of the library computers for illegal activities, or to access material that contains or makes reference to explicit sexual materials as defined in 18 PA.C.S.5093, is obscene, contains child pornography, or is harmful to minors. Patrons are hereby reminded that it is the user's responsibility, and not that of the library staff, which Internet Web sites are accessed. Parents of minor children must assume the responsibility for their children's use of the Internet at the Library. (We ask that the parent sit with the child while using the Internet if the child is under 16 years of age.)

Not all sites on the Internet provide accurate, complete or current information. You need to be a good consumer, questioning the validity of the information found. Just as libraries do not vouch for, or endorse, the viewpoints of written materials in their collection, they do not do so for electronic information.

The Library Internet is provided for the purpose of research. Users may not set up accounts through our system nor gain access to web sites that require preregistration, fees, or access codes.

The following is not permitted:

1. Damaging computers through rough or abusive handling, attempting to alter software configurations or installing software or programs, or rebooting.
2. Using the terminal to gain unauthorized access to any other network or computer system, electronic mail, chat rooms, commercial purposed or charging fees of any kind to the library.
3. Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures or invading the privacy of others
4. Violation of copyright laws or licensing agreements
5. Violation local, state, or federal laws or regulations

The library reserves the right to terminate a patron's access to the Internet for violation of the regulations.

Patrons are entitled to a minimum of 60 minutes of use. Users who have exceeded 60-minute limit may be asked to vacate the workstation if others are waiting to access the computer. Computer use sessions will conclude 15 minutes before the library is scheduled to close. Since space is limited and increased noise from group conversation is disruptive, only two users may gather at a workstation.

Staff assistance is limited to calling up the Internet on a workstation, showing patrons where to type in and address (URL) and direction to initiate a search.

Patrons may not use their own software. This will help to prevent transmission of computer viruses. If the patron wishes to download files, the patron must purchase a disk at the circulation desk for \$1.50. If a disk is to be reused at a later date it must be kept on file at the library.

The Mill Memorial Library reserves the right to modify this policy at any time.

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