

Town Hall Library Internet Use Policy

The library provides access to the Internet as a means to enhance patrons' information and learning opportunities. The trustees have established the Internet use policy to ensure its appropriate and effective use.

Access to the Internet is available to all patrons; however, this service may be restricted at any time for use not consistent with the guidelines. Parents of minor children must assume responsibility for their children's use of the library's Internet service. Prior to being granted access to the Internet, anyone under 14 years of age, along with a parent or guardian, must sign the Internet Use Agreement (which is included in this policy, as well as on page two of the Town Hall Library Application for a CAFÉ Borrower's Card).

Exceptions

Users should be aware that inappropriate use of electronic information resources can be a violation of local, state, or federal laws and can lead to prosecution. The user will be held responsible for his/her actions using the Internet. Users are expected to abide by the policies stated below, which include generally accepted rules of network etiquette. Unacceptable use of the service will result in the suspension or revocation of Internet use privileges.

Warnings

The Internet is a decentralized, unmediated global network: consequently, the library has no control over its content. The library will not censor or prohibit access to material or protect users from offensive information, and it is not responsible for the availability and accuracy of information found on the Internet.

The library cannot assure the data or files downloaded by users are virus-free. The library is not responsible for damages to equipment or data on a user's personal computer from the use of data downloaded from the library's Internet service.

Use of the Internet and e-mail is not guaranteed to be private. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the proper authorities.

Guidelines

- Patrons may use the Internet for research and acquisition of information to address their educational, vocational, cultural, and recreational needs.
- Patrons may use the Internet for the receipt and transmission of electronic mail (e-mail) as long as they use a free e-mail service which will establish and maintain an account for them; the library is unable to manage e-mail accounts for organizations or individuals.
- All users must have a registered library card.

- Sharing of card numbers could lead to loss of privileges.
- Access to the Internet is available to all patrons in good standing.
- Users under the age of 14 must co-sign with a parent/guardian.
- Internet use is offered in 30 minute increments/60 minutes' maximum/day.
- Users will be held responsible for his/her actions using the Internet.
- Users will respect and uphold copyright laws.
- Users will respect rights and privacy of others.
- Users agree not to incur any costs for the library through their use of the Internet.
- Users shall not create and/or distribute computer viruses over the Internet.
- Users shall not deliberately or willfully cause damage to computer equipment or programs.

INTERNET USE AGREEMENT

I understand and will abide by the Merton Town Hall Library's Internet Use Policy. I further understand that any violation of the regulations is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges will be revoked and appropriate legal action may be taken?

As the parent or guardian of this individual, I accept full responsibility for my child's use of the Merton Town Hall Library's Internet service and agree to oversee my child's use of this service. I have read the attached Internet Use Policy, and I understand that the library's access to the Internet is intended and designed for educational and informational purposes. I will not hold the library responsible for materials or information acquired by my child through the use of the library's Internet service. I hereby give permission for my child to use the library's network for Internet access and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

