



WINTER HAVEN PUBLIC LIBRARY INTERNET POLICY

The Winter Haven Public Library does not monitor, and has no control over the information accessed through the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content.

Computer users must accept responsibility for themselves and their children and determine suitability of content. Parents are strongly encouraged to supervise their children's Internet use, as Library staff cannot assume this responsibility.

Workstations are located in public areas, what you view is not private. Please be considerate of other library users and refrain from displaying material that they might reasonably consider objectionable.

No Illegal Use of Network. Patrons shall not use the library's public computers or access services in connection with criminal or civil violations of state, federal, or international laws, regulations, or other government requirements. Such violations include theft or infringement of copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets, or other types of intellectual property; fraud; forgery; theft or misappropriation of funds, credit cards, or personal information; and threats of physical harm or harassment.

Network Security. Patrons shall not use the library public computers or access services for the purpose of compromising or attacking the security of a network, service, or other system, through such means as, for example, hacking, monitoring, or using systems without authorization, scanning ports, conducting denial of service attacks, and distributing viruses or other harmful software.

Deletion, addition, or modification of the computers, equipment, or software is forbidden, as is unauthorized entry into other networks or computers. Intentional disruption of the operation of computers or networks is against Florida law. (Florida Statute 815) Copyright and license law must be respected.

Spam. Patrons shall not use the library public computers or access services to transmit unsolicited commercial or bulk e-mail messages or to make multiple identical postings in multiple newsgroups, online bulletin boards, or other online forums ("spam").

Offensive Materials. Patrons shall not use the library public computers or access services to transmit materials that are generally regarded as offensive, including obscene, pornographic, indecent, and hateful materials.

Viewing obscenity is PROHIBITED. (Florida Statute 847 provides for up to \$1,000 fine and one year in jail.) Patrons violating this law will be informed of the penalties that may be imposed. If the criminal use continues library privileges may be withdrawn. Subsequent misuse may require Police Department action.

Because the Library is a public place, Library staff has the authority to end an Internet session if the patron is viewing sites that are offensive.

Access for all patrons will be on a computer that is filtered.

You may not use your own software programs on the Library's computers.

Computer printouts are \$.10 per page.

Warning: Although we use a virus-checker on the Internet Access Computers, this will not completely protect you from the chance of getting a virus. Software downloaded from the Internet may contain a virus and you need to have virus-checking software on your personal computer. The Winter Haven Public Library is not responsible for damage to a patron's disk or computer, or for any loss of data, damage, or liability that may occur from patron use of the library's computer.

Library staff will assist Internet users in a manner consistent with other Library services. The availability of staff and needs of other Library users will necessarily affect the extent of assistance in Internet use.

Internet transactions involving the use of credit cards are conducted strictly at the risk of the patron.

The following departments of the library will allow those age appropriate patrons on the computers:

Reference Department: 18 or older

Young Adult Department: 7th – 12th grade

Children's Department: 6th grade and under

It is preferred parents with children use the computers in the Children's Department, if available.



*Violations of this policy may result in loss of Internet access and/or other Library privileges. Unlawful acts are subject to prosecution by local, state, and federal authorities