

Raquette Lake Library Computer & Internet Use Policy

Internet Access

Internet Access is an essential medium for obtaining and transmitting information of all types. Public access to the Internet is part of the Library's mission.

However, as an unregulated medium the Internet also provides access to information that is inaccurate, illegal or that some may find offensive or disturbing, but the Library cannot control a user's access to other Internet resources.

The user's access to the Library's computer network and Internet is a privilege, not a right. Failure to comply with this policy and its procedures may result in the forfeiture of Library Internet or general Library privileges.

Wireless Internet Access

The Raquette Lake Library offers free wireless Internet access. The Library's wireless network is unfiltered. By choosing to use this free service, you agree to abide by the Library's Internet Policy.

The Library is not responsible for any compromised information and will not assume any responsibility for the safety of equipment or for harm done to a wireless device's configurations, security or data files resulting from connection to the Library's wireless service.

You may use a computer station for at least 30 minutes; longer if no one is waiting. If patrons are waiting to use a computer station, those whose sessions have been the longest (30 minutes or more) will be asked to surrender their stations to the patrons who are waiting. Two or more patrons may use the same computer station if their behavior does not disturb those around them. No food or drink is permitted in the library.

Responsibilities of Library Staff and Users

Library staff does not and will not monitor a user's Internet use, except for length of use in order to ensure equal opportunity of access for everyone. The user, or the parent or guardian of a minor, is responsible for his or her Internet session at all times.

The Library reserves the right to terminate an Internet session that disrupts Library services or that involves user behavior that violates the Library's policies.

It is the responsibility of the individual user to select appropriate sites for his/her own use. The Library does not restrict Internet access based on the age of the user. As with all Library resources, the Library affirms the right and responsibility of parents/guardians, NOT Library staff, to determine and monitor their minor children's use of the Internet, including the use of e-mail and social media. Parents are responsible for their minor children's use of the Library's resources and facilities.

Disclaimers

While the Library tries to provide access to information of the highest quality, the Library specifically denies any claim as to the information's accuracy, timeliness, authoritativeness, usefulness or fitness for a particular purpose. The Library will have no liability for direct, indirect or consequential damages related to the use of information accessed through the Library's Internet service.

Since software and information downloaded from any sources, including the Internet, may contain computer viruses, users are advised to utilize virus checking software on their home computers. The Library is not responsible for damage to users' home computers or for any loss of data, damage or liability that may occur from use of the Library's computers.

Unacceptable Uses of Computers

Among the uses that are considered unacceptable, and which constitute a violation of this policy, are the following:

- Uses that violate the law.
- Transmitting of offensive or harassing messages.
- Viewing, transmitting or downloading illegal materials.
- Downloading or transmitting confidential, trade secret information or copyrighted materials.
- Uses that cause harm to others or damage to their property.
- Uploading a harmful form of programming or vandalism; participating in "hacking" activities or any form of unauthorized access to other computers, networks or information systems.
- Uses that jeopardize the security of access of the computer network.
- Uses that jeopardize the safety or security of minors.
- Viewing materials that are inappropriate in a public space or attempting to view, read or censor material being used by others without their permission.

Confidentiality of Library Records

In accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 317 (c)(19), the following are exempt from public inspection and copying--records relating to the identity of Library patrons or the identity of Library patrons in regard to the circulation of Library materials.

Due to the confidentiality of Library records, the Raquette Lake Library does not reveal information about an individual's Internet use unless compelled to do so under due process of law.

Adopted 8/22/2020