



## INTERNET ACCESS AND COMPUTER USE POLICY

### General Statement of Internet Access

The Williston Community Library ("WCL" or "Library") provides computers and public access to the Internet in support of its mission to assure equitable access to the Library's resources and services and to affirm its commitment to the principles of intellectual freedom as expressed in the Library Bill of Rights. Internet resources are provided by WCL equally to all of its patrons.

### Use of Technology Protection Measures

The Library employs technology protection measures (Internet filters) through the North Dakota state network on all of its computers with Internet access. As required by the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), blocking is applied to visual depictions of materials deemed harmful to or inappropriate for minors, and to maintain the safety and security of minors utilizing the Internet. The Library may provide unfiltered Internet access to adults who request it for uses not in violation of this policy.

### Staff Assistance

Staff will provide limited assistance for basic start up procedures. Library staff cannot provide in-depth training due to time and knowledge constraints. (See WCLs **STAFF SUPPORT TO PATRONS POLICY**)

### Liability

Because of the vast scope and diversity of information accessible via the internet, the Library accepts no responsibility for:

- Accuracy of information found online
- Debts incurred by users from for-pay services through the Internet
- Damages resulting from loss of connectivity
- Breaches of personal data
- Exposure to or infection by malware

The library accepts no responsibility for lost or misplaced items.

The library accepts no responsibility for what patrons' access online.

### Guidelines for Computer Use

Patrons are required to sign in to use the public internet computers. By signing in, patrons agree to the terms of the library policy. Sign in forms will be shredded at the end of each day. The library is not responsible for the content of any materials accessed through the Internet. Parents or guardians, NOT the library or its staff, are responsible for the Internet information selected and/or accessed by their children. Parental supervision of children searching the Internet is advised. Usage may be restricted to one hour if there are patrons waiting to use the computers.

Unpaid fees or overdue library materials can result in restriction of computer privileges. Computer registration is blocked once a user owes \$25 or more in fees and/or has materials 90 days or more overdue.

### Printing Charges

Patrons will be charged \$0.10 for each black & white page printed and \$1.00 for every color page printed.

## **Unacceptable Use**

Using Library computers in an unacceptable manner is prohibited. Unacceptable use includes, but is not limited to:

- Public display of obscene material (NDCC 12.1-27.1-03.1)
- Damaging or attempting to damage computer equipment
- Interfering with WCL systems operations, integrity, or security
- Engaging in activities deemed unlawful according to local, state, and federal law
  - Please note: File sharing of copyrighted music/digital content can be illegal
- Disruptive behavior (see WCLs **PATRON CONDUCT POLICY**)

## **Enforcement**

A patron who is observed using a computer in an unacceptable manner may be subject to:

- Ending the computer session for the day
- Temporary suspension of computer use privileges
- Permanent suspension of computer use privileges based on repeated violations
- Notification of appropriate law enforcement officials if it appears that a violation of state law or City Ordinance has occurred.

## **Wireless Network Access**

The Library and the Williams County Bookmobile both provide a separate Wi-Fi network for personal computer and mobile device connection. These are open Internet connections, with no protection or filtering. All security is the responsibility of the user. All policies regarding legal and acceptable use of the Internet apply. All above stated policies apply to wireless network access as well.

Adopted: July 1, 1998  
Amended: June 19, 2018 | January 18, 2022