Internet & Computer Use

The Library provides free use of computers and access to the Internet for its patrons as a privilege. Each patron wishing to use the computers must agree to abide by the policies and procedures set out in this statement. Computers for this policy are defined as desktops, laptops, and tablets that are the property of the Bloomfield-Eastern Greene County Public Library.

Library software permits the Library to remotely view any and all activity on each computer in an effort to ensure and enforce compliance with this Agreement, and all users hereby consent to the Library's use of such software and specifically hold harmless and indemnify the Library for its use of such software. The Library shall not use or disclose the information in any manner other than to ensure and enforce compliance with this User Agreement, to defend a claim against the Library, and/or as otherwise required by law.

The Library is not responsible for any patron's use of, or inability to use the public access computers in the Library, nor is the Library liable for any damage which may result to any patron or work product resulting from malfunctions of equipment or errors in usage. Each user releases the Library Staff and Board from any and all claims arising from the use of the computers. Patrons using the computers, and the parents of users under the age of eighteen, will be responsible to the Library for any damage caused to the computers or computer systems through deliberate destruction, defacement, or misuse of the computers.

The Library Staff retains the right to refuse access to any patron who violates Library policies, or abuses the privilege to use the computers. The Library Staff is the sole arbiter of what constitutes inappropriate use, abusive conduct, or violation of its policies. Inappropriate use may result in suspension of user access privileges.

Examples of inappropriate Internet use include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Any purpose that violates applicable federal, state, or local laws;
- Interfering with or disrupting other computer users, services, or equipment;
- Solicitation, advertisement, or any commercial purposes;
- Attempting to gain or gaining unauthorized entry to other computing, information, or communications devices or resources; or
- Malicious, threatening, harassing, or obscene behavior, including public display of obscene materials on computer screen or in hard copy.

The Library is not responsible for damages, injury, or claims of any kind arising from patrons' use of the Internet. Parents assume any liability arising from their minor children's use of the Internet at the Library.

The Internet is a global information network containing a wide variety of material and opinions from diverse points of view utilizing text, graphs, and sound. It is a valuable resource for educational, informational, and recreational material. The Internet is in constant state of change, however, and not all information available is current, accurate, or complete. As with all other resources, the Library is not responsible for the information provided and does not guarantee that an Internet source will provide accurate, complete, or current information.

The library does not control access to material. The Library cannot control the availability of information through the Internet, because information links change rapidly and unpredictably. The Internet contains information of a controversial nature, allows direct communication between persons through chat lines, and permits the purchase of goods and services. Users themselves must determine the validity and appropriate uses of information retrieved from the Internet.

Teens, ages 13 and up, must use the computers available in the teen room if there is an open computer. If there is no open computer, or the teen needs to print something out in color, then they may use a computer on the adult floor of the library. Tablets and laptops located in the teen room may not be taken out of the teen room. **Children, ages 12 and under**, must use the computers available in the children's department if there is an open computer. If there is no open computer, or the child needs to print something out in color, then they may use a computer on the adult floor of the library. Laptops located in the children's department may not be taken out of the children's department.

Parents are responsible for monitoring their minor children's (under 18) use of the Internet.

Users are cautioned:

- To guard closely the security of personal information, credit card numbers, computer accounts, passwords, and other types of authorizations when using the Internet;
- To take steps to protect their systems from computer viruses or other destructive computer programs when downloading programs to drives for use on other computers; and
- Purchasing goods and services through the Internet using credit cards can result in unwanted financial obligations or fraudulent uses of any financial information provided.

Computer Use

1. All users must sign in when using the computers.
2. No more than two persons may use a computer together.

3. Computers are available for one-hour time blocks, on a first-come, first-served basis. Users must relinquish computers after one hour if others are waiting or if computers are reserved. The time limit may be waived if no other users are waiting or have reserved time.

4. Computers left unattended for more than 10 minutes will be available to other users.

5. Users may make advance reservations for a maximum of one hour per day. Reservations may be made in person or by phone to the circulation desks (384-4125).

6. All data storage devices will be scanned by the computer's virus detection system.

7. Printing is available for 10¢ per page for black and white printing or 25¢ per page for color printing, payable at the circulation desks.

8. The CD-Rom drives are not available to users for playing music or for mounting personal software.

9. The computers will shut down five minutes before closing.