

LIMA PUBLIC LIBRARY

COMPUTER AND INTERNET POLICY

I. GENERAL

The Lima Public Library is an integral part of the community, furnishing books and other resources for the interest, information, and enlightenment of everyone it serves. The library is committed to providing the public with popular materials, a "doorway to learning," and community services. The library provides access to the Internet to assist library users of all ages in receiving answers to the reference questions and easy access to resources for personal enjoyment and learning.

II. SCOPE OF SERVICE

Reference services, word processing, and e-mail are available for patron use on all designated PC computers.

III. ELIGIBILITY

A patron in good standing with no outstanding fines or lost materials is eligible. Those under 18 years of age must have written parental permission for computer and Internet use.

IV. PARENTAL RIGHTS

The library affirms that it is primarily the responsibility of the parent to monitor their child's use of library materials including internet access.

V. RESPONSIBILITY

Patrons using the computers are responsible for any damage done to the library's property including equipment, furnishings, software, or library materials caused by or resulting from inappropriate use of equipment or improper behavior.

VI. INTERNET USE RESTRICTIONS

Internet games, chat rooms, newsgroups, and listservs are not allowed. The library is a family setting and internet users are expected to exercise good judgement and good taste in their use of internet resources. Failure to follow this guideline will result in loss of internet privileges.

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VII. INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

The library supports the American Library Association's Bill of Rights, including those that deal with intellectual freedom, as well as the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

VIII. DISCLAIMER

The library is not responsible for any damage or loss of data resulting from the use of its computers. The library has no control over the availability of network access or inability to connect to any site due to excessive traffic on the internet or the availability of information links, which change frequently. The Lima Public Library is unable to control or monitor the content of materials on the internet, which is an unregulated medium. Patrons use the internet at their own discretion.

IX. LEGAL ISSUES & TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996-Se. 502

The Lima Public Library does not condone, nor will it tolerate the use of library computer resources to break any law, including but not limited to, the Telecommunications Decency Act:

"Whoever in interstate or foreign communications by means of a telecommunications device knowingly makes, creates, or solicits, and initiates transmission of any comment, request, suggestion, proposal, image, or other communication which is obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy, or indecent, with the intent to annoy, abuse, threaten, or harass another person:....shall be fined under Title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned not more than two years, or both."

Computer resources may only be used for legal purposes.

Adopted by:


Lima Public Library Board of Trustees

Date: May 11, 2005