

Use of Library Computers and Public Internet

The Hampton Bays Public Library provides computer access to all Suffolk County Library District cardholders and residents from other Library Districts subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth. Residents of the Hampton Bays Library District may use their Library Card to access the computers. Residents from other library districts in Suffolk County may use their library card issued by their home library. Visitors who live outside Suffolk County may obtain a visitor's "computer guest pass," which shall be valid for one day only. Visitors are entitled to one guest pass per day.

Library computers are the property of the Library and the Library reserves the right to terminate any computer session at any time and deny further computer privileges. Terminable offenses include, but are not limited to:

1. Making any modifications to the operating system, hardware or software installed on the library computers. Patrons are not permitted to install any software on any library computer;
2. Displaying obscene materials or images in contravention of New York State Law;
3. Sending, receiving and displaying text or graphics which may reasonably be considered "pornographic";
4. Using library computers to gain unauthorized access to the library or any other network or computer system;
5. Damaging, or attempting to damage library computer equipment or software;
6. Using a library computer for illegal or criminal purposes;
7. Using a library computer to spread viruses and spyware;
8. Using a library computer to distribute advertisements, junk mail, or chain letters.
9. Accessing online computer games that may reasonably be deemed violent.

Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in a loss of computer and internet privileges.

A filter is used to block access to pornographic websites, and other sites that may violate the terms of this policy. At times the filter may prevent access to a legitimate website, in which case patrons may ask that staff temporarily disable the filter. The Library reserves the right to deny this request. It is not possible for the Library to monitor and control information available for viewing on the internet; therefore, the Library is not responsible for any information obtained through the internet, or any consequences arising from such use. In addition, illegal use of library computers may also cause the patron to be subject to prosecution by local, state or federal authorities.

The library reserves the right to monitor all computer activity, including internet use; however, it will not share any information gathered except as required by law.

The library is not responsible for interruptions to internet service, including but not limited to: problems with network lines and web servers, hardware failures, power outages.

Use of Library's Wireless Internet

The Library offers free wireless internet access to any patron, regardless of cardholder status, who uses their own device.

Use of the Library's wireless network shall be at the patron's own risk. The wireless internet connection is unsecured and open to everyone. The Library is not responsible for any loss or damage that may occur as a result of using the Library's wireless internet, including but not limited to:

- (1) financial loss;
- (2) loss of data;
- (3) damage to the hardware or the software of any personal device;
- (4) the interception of personal information (including but not limited to social security numbers, credit card numbers, and bank account information); and,
- (5) Identity theft.

The Library is not responsible for any wireless devices left unattended. The Library reserves the right to terminate any wireless internet session at any time and deny further wireless internet privileges.

Terminable offenses include, but are not limited to:

- (1) sending, receiving and displaying text or graphics which may reasonably be considered “pornographic;”
- (2) attempting to gain, or gaining unauthorized access to the library or any other network or computer system;
- (3) using the wireless internet for illegal or criminal purposes;
- (4) using the wireless internet to spread viruses and/or spyware; and,
- (5) using the wireless internet to distribute advertisements, junk mail, or chain letters.

The Library reserves the right to monitor all wireless internet activity; however, it will not share any information gathered except as required by law.

Patrons utilizing wireless devices must be considerate of patrons nearby and refrain from creating excessive noise, including the playing of music without the use of headphones.

Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in a loss of wireless internet access privileges.