

ELWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

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COMPUTER USE RULES

Elwood Public Library offers access to electronic resources, including Internet access for education and recreational uses. Access is a privilege, not a right, and requires responsibility on the part of the user, and adherence to this Policy.

The Internet offers unlimited global access to all types of information. Not all sources are accurate, complete, current, legal or philosophically acceptable to all people. Some information may be offensive, inappropriate, controversial, illegal, erroneous, etc. It is the responsibility of the user to select or reject online information based on good judgment and discretion.

Elwood Public Library cannot fully monitor or control the content of the materials on the Internet, which changes rapidly and unpredictably. With respect to minor children's use of the computers and Internet, it is the sole responsibility of the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) to monitor their use.

Prior to gaining access to the Internet, Library computer users, and those accessing the Internet via the Library's wireless network, must agree to accept and abide by this Policy. While there may be a reasonable expectation of privacy when viewing the Internet in a private setting, Library computer users should not have a similar expectation of privacy, particularly when the computer screen and/or printout could be viewed by others. Library computer users are responsible for using the Internet appropriately, and **must not**:

1. Violate applicable federal, state, or local laws including copyright, harassment and defamation laws;
2. Access, upload, download, transmit or distribute pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit language or material. Obscene or sexually explicit material is defined as text, pictures or sound which the average adult applying contemporary community standards would find primarily appeals to a prurient interest in sex and lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value;
3. Interfere with or disrupting other Library computer users, services, or equipment.
4. Attempt to modify or gain access to files, passwords or data belonging to others. Seeking unauthorized access to any computer, damaging or altering software components of any network or database is prohibited.
5. Use malicious, threatening, harassing, or obscene behavior or language.
6. Participate in activities that could cause congestion and disruption of networks and systems.
7. Conduct unsolicited advertising.

Violation of this Policy may result in penalties up to and including the termination of one's right to access the Library's Internet and/or suspension of other Library privileges.

In no event will Elwood Public Library have any liability for lost profits or for any direct or indirect special, punitive, or consequential damages, or any liability to a third party, even if the Library is advised of the possibility of such damages, arising from the use of its computers or Internet. Users assume all associated risks and agree to hold harmless the Library for any personal information that is compromised, or any damage caused to users' hardware or software due to electric surges, security issues, viruses, hacking or otherwise.

Adopted 1/22/04

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