Oliver Springs Public Library Internet Use Policy

The Oliver Springs Public Library offers access to electronic resources, including those on the Internet via public access computers. Access is a privilege, not a right, and requires responsibility on the part of the user.

Use of the public computers is on a first-come, first-served basis. Time limits are set so all patrons seeking access will have an opportunity to do so.

Patrons are required to have a valid Oliver Springs Public Library card in good standing to access public computers (ex: no outstanding fees, no lost or overdue materials, and not expired). Wi-Fi is available for everyone without a password.

Printing is available via public access computers for $0.25 per page in black and white only.

Children ages 14 – 17 may use the public computers without a parent / guardian present, but must present their valid Oliver Springs Public Library card to obtain access. Children ages 13 and under must have a parent / guardian present.

Computer sessions are 30 minutes in length, but can be extended at the request of the library director as long as other patrons are not waiting and more than 5 minutes remain on the current timer.
Once the timer reaches 3 minutes remaining, the session begins to close. Time cannot be extended and the session will automatically close once the timer hits 0:00.

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, controversial, illegal, erroneous, etc. It is the responsibility of the user to select or reject online information based on good judgment and discretion.

Library staff cannot fully monitor or control the content of the materials on the Internet, which changes rapidly and unpredictably. Parents and guardians of minor children must assume responsibility of their children's use of the Internet just as they must with printed materials or visual materials.

Approved by the Roane County Library Board on _____January 10, 2024_____

Technology Protection Measures

In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000, the library uses filtering software or other technology protection measures on library computers and all other personal devices connected to the library's network.

Filters are required to prevent minors from accessing visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors. The library makes no claim that its filtering software or any filtering software is foolproof.

Filtering software diminishes the likelihood that users will inadvertently retrieve text or images that they may find offensive but does not eliminate that possibility. Filters may block sites that users would consider both inoffensive and useful.

The library will have no liability for damages related to the operation of, or failure of, the filtering software, or for its circumvention by users.

Acceptable Use

All electronic traffic originating from the computing center will be in accordance with acceptable use standards. Failure to abide by these standards may result in the loss of Internet, computer, or other privileges.

1.   Respect for the privacy of others.

2.   Compliance with copyright law and licensing for individual data and programs.

3.   Consideration for the security and functioning of computers, computer networks and systems.

Unacceptable Use

Computing resources may only be used for legal purposes by the public and staff in accordance with the ethical standards of the library. Examples of unacceptable use include, but are not limited to the following:

1.   Uses for any purposes that violate applicable federal, state, or local laws including copyright laws.

2.   Interfering with or disrupting other computer users, services, or equipment.

3.   Attempting to gain or gaining unauthorized entry to other computing, information, or communications sources or devices (hacking).

4.   Malicious, threatening, harassing, or obscene behavior or language.

5.   Obscene behavior including public display of obscene materials on computer screens or in hard copy.

6.   Misrepresentation of oneself or the library.

7.   Activities that could cause congestion and disruption of networks and systems.

8.   Unsolicited advertising.

9.   To access, upload, download, transmit or distribute pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit language or material.

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Response to Violations

The library reserves the right to terminate an internet session that disrupts library services or that involves user behavior that violates this or any other library policy. Failure to comply with library policies may result in the temporary or permanent forfeiture of the user's privilege to access these computers or to use the library.

Cautions

1. Parents are cautioned to monitor their minor children's use of the Internet.
2. 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.
3. Users are cautioned to take steps to protect their systems from computer viruses and other destructive computer programs when downloading programs to disk for use on other computers.
4. Electronic files should not be considered confidential. When required by law, the computing center must disclose all files to the extent required by law.
5. The library is not liable for any direct or indirect and/or punitive damages (including lost data or information) sustained or incurred in connection with the use or unavailability of the system.

Policy Review

Annually, the Roane County Library Board will review this policy in a public meeting and document such approval in the official board minutes.

Approved by the Roane County Library Board on _____January 10, 2024_____