

Frankfort Community Public Library
Clinton County Contractual Library

COMPUTER, INTERNET AND SAFETY USE POLICY

The purpose of Internet access in the Library is to make available the vast array of information and research resources to the people of Clinton County. To accomplish this in a fair and equitable manner, the following policies have been adopted.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF USERS

LEGAL USE

The public Internet at the Library may only be used for legal purposes. Examples of illegal purposes include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Harassment of other users
- Libeling or slandering other users
- Destruction of or damage to equipment, software, or data belonging to the library or other users
- Disruption or unauthorized monitoring of electronic communications.
- Unauthorized copying of copyright-protected materials

ETHICAL USE

The Internet must be used in accordance with policies of the Library. Examples of unacceptable use include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Violation of computer system security
- Unauthorized use of computer accounts, access codes, or network identification numbers
- Violation of software license agreements
- Violations of network usage policies and regulations
- Interfering with system operation
- Modifying the computers or software in any way. This includes downloading and installing programs or plug-ins on the computers.
- Degrading system performance in any way

Unlawful use or misuse of the Internet will result in suspension or termination of user access to these resources. The library staff will determine the appropriate action whether suspension or termination of privileges is imposed. All computer users must follow the Library Rules.

WIRELESS ACCESS

- The Frankfort Community Public Library, Rossville Community Library, Michigan Road Community Library, and Mulberry Community Library provide public wireless access to the Internet in select locations.
- Wireless Internet content is filtered at the Frankfort Library.
- Technical support for use of the wireless is not available.

- Users of the wireless hotspots are subject to the terms of this policy.
- The library cannot guarantee the privacy or safety of data and communications while using either wired or wireless services. Patrons need to be aware that wireless networks are inherently insecure, and it is strongly recommended that they secure their computers with firewall software and data encryption.

FILTERING

- Internet content is filtered at the Frankfort Community Public Library and the Clinton County Contractual Libraries. Filtering makes the library compliant with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). Per the requirements of CIPA, library staff may disable the filtering software during any use by an adult to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.
- Computer users should be mindful that what they do on the Internet may be seen by others including children. Accessing sites that contain pornography, obscenity and/or other illicit materials is not permitted. Users that access one of these sites by mistake should exit immediately.

DISCLAIMER

- Since the Internet is a global electronic network, there is no federal/state/county control of its users or content. The Internet and its available resources may contain material of a controversial nature. The library cannot control access to material nor protect users from offensive data. As a part of its Computer, Internet and Safety Use Policy the Library highly recommends that parents read *Keeping Kids Safer on the Internet*, a publication available on the Internet. The library strongly recommends that parents use the Internet access services provided by the library with their children and that the parents provide appropriate supervision.
- Library staff cannot control availability of information links which often change rapidly and unpredictably. Not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, complete or current information. Users need to be good information consumers, questioning the validity of the information they receive.
- The Frankfort Community Public Library and Clinton County Contractual Library assume no responsibility for any damages, direct or indirect, arising from the use of its computers or Internet connection.

WORK STATION RULES

1. Everyone using the Internet must read and accept the Computer, Internet and Safety Use Policy.
2. The Internet computer terminals may be used for up to 3 hours per day
3. Public computers in the Children's Department of the Frankfort Library are for children up to grade five and for caregivers of children up to grade five.

4. Computers in the Edge for Teens are for patrons in grade six to twelve. See Laptop Checkout Policy.
5. Viewing child pornography (18 U.S.C. §2256) is illegal and will be reported to the police. Viewing any obscene visual depictions (as defined by the federal obscenity statute, 18 U.S.C. §1460) is against library policy and will result in consequences outlined in the Library Rules. When public computers are used by minors, visual depictions that are harmful to minors are also prohibited.
6. Patrons must use their own card on a public Internet terminal or ask at the Reference Desk to be logged on as a guest. Patrons do not need a card at the two Express Stations.

The Frankfort Community Public Library Board and the Clinton County Contractual Library Board will annually review this Internet Policy.

The Frankfort Community Public Library Board and the Clinton County Contractual Library Board have reviewed and approved this Internet Policy, effective January 2001. Reviewed & Approved April 13, 2015

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