



Growing with Our Community

LEVITTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY

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<http://www.levittownpl.org> Trina Reed, Director

LEVITTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY – INTERNET/WIRELESS POLICY

The Levittown Public Library is committed to intellectual freedom and is dedicated to the principles espoused in the *First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights*. Copies of these documents are available at the library. In keeping with this commitment, the library will provide patrons who agree to the terms of this Internet/Wireless Policy with unfiltered access to the Internet and the World Wide Web.

Copies of this policy are available at the Reference Desk.

The Internet is an electronic network that provides dynamic and ever-changing sources of information. **The library has no control over the information that can be accessed through the Internet. It does not monitor or filter that information nor does it guarantee the content, quality, suitability, or accuracy of any such information. The library makes no express or implied warranties of any kind for the services it provides.**

Wireless Access poses the same risks that a wired network poses. In addition, WiFi unplugs the Internet and makes personal security risks more visible. Cautious WiFi users may choose not to transmit their credit card or financial information and passwords while using any WiFi hotspot, including the library's.

When you connect to the Library's Wireless Network you are automatically accepting the library's Internet/Wireless Policy.

The use of any information obtained by using the library's Internet connections is at the user's own risk. Each user is personally responsible for the choice of Internet sites visited. The library assumes no direct or indirect responsibility for any damages that may occur arising from the use by its patrons of its connection to the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to such things as loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, service interruptions, or transfers or disclosure of user file information, inaccurate information, fees incurred, or personal or other harm caused to patrons if the user discloses personal information over the Internet. Likewise, the library is not responsible for damage caused to a computer owned by the user or anyone else from computer viruses acquired through use of the library's Internet or Wireless

connections. In addition, the library is not responsible for the theft or damage to personal property including, but not limited to, laptops.

Access to and use of the Library's Hardwired and/or Wireless Internet Connections:

Any patron may register for access to the library's Internet connections, subject to compliance with the library's rules for use of the Internet. Adult patrons have access to computers in the Adult Reference Department and the Computer Lab. Students in grades 6 through 12 have access to computers in the Young Adult Room or Computer Lab. Students in grades 5 and under have access to computers in the Children's Room.

Suspension or Termination of Library Privileges in Case of Violation of the Library's Rules:

The Administration will evaluate all reports of inappropriate or illegal use of the library's networks. Illegal uses will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

The Director is authorized by the Library's Board of Trustees (the Board) to **suspend the library privileges and/or suspend or terminate the Internet/Wireless privileges** of any patron who fails to adhere to the library's rules for use of its Internet/Wireless connections. A patron may appeal the suspension or termination of library and/or Internet/Wireless privileges in writing, to the Library's Board of Trustees. However, the suspension or termination will remain in effect until the appeal is heard and a determination of the Board is made.

BY CONNECTING TO THE INTERNET AND THE WIRELESS NETWORK, YOU RELEASE THE LIBRARY AND HOLD IT HARMLESS, IN ADVANCE, FROM ANY AND ALL DAMAGES, DIRECT AND INDIRECT, ARISING FROM YOUR (AND/OR YOUR MINOR CHILD'S) USE OF THE LIBRARY'S INTERNET CONNECTIONS; YOU FURTHER AGREE TO ALL TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF THIS DOCUMENT AND TO ABIDE BY ALL RULES POSTED BY THE LIBRARY FOR USE OF THE INTERNET/WIRELESS CONNECTIONS.

The following prohibitions always apply:

- Using Internet-accessible resources in a way that violates the intellectual property rights of the owner or creator of the information.
- Using the library's networks to make or obtain copies of software.
- Using the library's networks and equipment for illegal, inappropriate or criminal purposes, including but not limited to the following:
 - Violating United States copyright law and all applicable state and federal laws;
 - Receipt and/or transmission of any material in violation of state or federal law (including but not limited to material that is deemed obscene, defamatory, libelous, malicious, slanderous or with the intent to annoy, harass, or alarm);and

- Intentionally exposing patrons or staff to information that is deemed obscene, child pornography, or material deemed harmful to minors.
- Using the library's networks for commercial purposes, except for incidental work such as posting a resume, mentioning consulting services in a webpage, or communicating with an employer via email.
- Using another patron's library card, password, or other user identification to gain access to the library's Internet connection, or lending your own library card, password or other user identification to allow anyone else to gain access to the library's connections to the Internet.
- Trying to circumvent or breach workstation, network, or host security in the library or at other Internet sites.
- Vandalism or any other malicious attempt to harm or destroy data, including uploading or creating computer viruses.
- Using any electronic mail system [to hinder the ability of others to work,] to forward junk email, send spam, harass or intimidate another person or to hinder the ability of others to work.
- Setting up a proxy service or other such arrangement to enable more than one computer to access the network.

***Definitions by Federal Law**

Inappropriate Material

Visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Obscene

The federal obscenity statute does not itself contain an express definition of obscenity. However, in the landmark case of *Miller v. California*, 413 U.S. 15 (1973), the Supreme Court established a test/definition for obscenity that is now implicitly incorporated into the federal statute: (a) whether "the average person, applying contemporary community standards" would find the work, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest; (b) whether the work depicts or describes, in a patently offensive way, sexual conducts specifically defined by the applicable state or federal law; and (c) whether the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.

Child Pornography

The federal child pornography statute, **18 U.S.C. '2256**, defines "child pornography" as "any visual depiction" of a minor under-18 years old engaging in "sexually explicit conduct," which includes, "actual or simulated" sexual intercourse, bestiality, masturbation, sadistic or masochistic abuse, or "lascivious exhibition of the genitals or pubic area." The statute's definition includes not only actual depictions of sexually explicit conduct involving minors, but also images that "appear to be" minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

Material Deemed Harmful to Minors

18 USC 2256 defines "harmful to minors" as "any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that (i) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; (ii) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual act, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and (iii) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors."

ILLEGAL ACTS INVOLVING LIBRARY RESOURCES MAY BE SUBJECT TO PROSECUTION BY LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL OFFICIALS.

THE LIBRARY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TERMINATE AN INTERNET SESSION AT ANY TIME.

Rules and Regulations:

1. Use is limited to a two-hour time period. If the computer is available, the time period may be extended by the Reference Librarian or authorized library staff.
2. Users are responsible for any charges incurred if they enter a fee-based service.
3. Users are required to take proper care of the Library's equipment and property. Alterations to the Library's computer equipment and printers or software are prohibited. Problems with the Library's hardware or software should be reported to the Reference and/or Media staff immediately.
4. Librarians will assist in the initial start-up of the system, but will not provide extended instruction. Assistance is limited to verbal instructions on non-library owned equipment.

5. a) Users may print materials on the Library's printers or download information onto their own floppy discs or flash drives. Users may not download information to the Library's computers' hard drive.

b) Users are prohibited from degrading, disrupting, or destroying programming, and are further prohibited from downloading copyrighted or licensed material.
6. Effective January 2, 2016, copies are 10 cents per page. Color copies are 50 cents per page.
7. Microsoft Office programs are accessible on some terminals. Please ask at the Reference and/or Media desk.
8. Failure to comply with library rules and regulations will result in the termination of Internet access privileges.
9. The Levittown Public Library makes no warranty, expressed or implied, nor assumes responsibility for the timeliness, accuracy, or usefulness of any information accessed via the Internet. Library patrons use it at their own risk.

Adopted by the Library's Board of Trustees on October, 2008.
Revised October 7, 2009; December 2, 2015; June 6, 2018.