

BANCROFT PUBLIC LIBRARY

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES POLICY

The Bancroft Public Library in the Town of Salem offers access to electronic resources, including the internet, as part of its mission to provide services and materials in a variety of formats to meet the information, education, and recreation needs of the community. The internet is a global electronic network, which enables libraries to provide resources, materials, and information beyond their doors. The NYS Department of Education officially encourages libraries to provide access to electronic information.

The Bancroft Public Library does not warrant information found on the internet to be accurate, authoritative, factual, timely, or useful for patrons' purposes. The internet is a global entity, which does not fall under the control or governance of any single agency, government, or organization. The availability of networked information via library terminals does not constitute the Library's endorsement of the content of that information. The Library cannot control the accuracy or the validity of the information, availability of links, or materials some may find offensive. If any patron believes that information obtained via library terminals is inaccurate or offensive, the patron should contact the original producer or distributor of the information.

It is the Library's policy that parents or legal guardians are responsible for deciding what library materials and resources are appropriate for their minor children. Supervision or restriction of a child's access to the internet, as with other Library resources, is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian. All young persons under the age of 14 must have the signed permission of a parent or guardian to access the internet. Children under the age of 7 must be accompanied by an adult in order to access the internet.

All persons using the Library's access to the internet must read the Internet and Electronics Resources Policy and agree to its terms. Users need to be reasonably proficient in computer usage, as we do not have the resources to offer extensive help.

All users of electronic resources are expected to use these resources in a responsible and ethical manner consistent with the standards and rules of the Library and the community. The Library reserves the right to enforce a time allowance of sixty (60) minutes per session. Printing will be limited to that which can be completed within the allotted time and may be stopped at the end of that time.

There will be a charge of \$0.25 per page for black and white and \$0.75 per page for color printing/copies either from the printer or copy machine. There will be a charge of \$1.00 for the first fax page and \$0.50 per page for any additional fax pages.

Patrons may not use computer terminals or copier for any illegal, inappropriate or criminal purposes, including but not limited to:

- Displaying or sending sexually graphic images or offensive messages on any personal or Library owned electronic device while in the Library or using Library Wi-Fi
- Downloading any sexually graphic or illegal material while using Library computers or Wi-Fi
- Violation of computer security system
- Unauthorized use of computer accounts or access codes
- Obstruction or disruption of other people's work
- Visual, verbal, or written use of the computer to transmit harassing materials.
- Violating copyright laws
- Using another's password

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES POLICY

Page | 2

- Trespassing in another's folders, work, or files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the Library computer network for commercial purposes
- Tampering with, altering, editing or damaging computer, copier or electronic hardware or software
- Harassing staff for a hardware glitch which is out of their control (e.g., printer jam, power loss, data loss, etc.)
- Possess food or drink at computer workstations or near Library-owned electronics

Violations may result in loss of access as well as legal action.

The Bancroft Public Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility, including copyright, arising from access to or use of information obtained through its electronic information systems, or any consequences thereof.

All use of the Library's public computers must be in compliance with federal, state, and local laws, including federal and state obscenity laws.

Wireless Internet Limitations and Disclaimers

- Wireless access is provided as a public service free of charge on an "as is" basis with no guarantee and no warranty; nor is the making of a connection guaranteed.
- At its sole discretion, the Bancroft Public Library Board of Trustees may terminate this public service at any time without prior notice.
- Information passing through Bancroft Public Library's wireless access is not secured and could be monitored, captured, or altered by others.
- It is the user's sole responsibility to protect his or her information from all risks associated with using the Internet, including any damage, loss, or theft that may occur as a result of use of Bancroft Public Library wireless access.
- Display of sexually graphic images is not permitted on any computer in the Library.
- Sound must be muted or personal headphones must be used.
- Library staff is not able to provide technical assistance and assumes no responsibility for laptop configurations, security or changes to data files resulting from connection to the Library's network.
- In using this free Internet access, the user agrees to hereby release, indemnify, and hold harmless, the Bancroft Public Library and Board of Trustees, its officers and employees, and any affiliate, from any damage that may result in the user's use of this wireless access.

While using this wireless access, the user acknowledges that he or she is subject to, and agrees to abide by all laws, and all rules and regulations of the Bancroft Public Library, the State of New York, and the United States government that is applicable to Internet use. This policy may be revised from time to time by resolution of the Bancroft Public Library Board of Trustees.

Adopted: July 11, 2017
Revised: July 7, 2020
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