

## DOVER PLAINS LIBRARY INTERNET USE POLICY

The Dover Plains Library is a center of community life, offering opportunities for people of all ages to gather, learn and grow. The mission of the Dover Plains Library is to ensure that all the residents of the Town of Dover have free and open access to information and ideas. The library encourages the love of reading and the joy of lifelong learning, and offers the assistance people need to find, evaluate, and use electronic and print information resources that help them live successful and rewarding lives.

All use of the Internet should be in accord with the objectives of the Dover Plains Library to provide resources for people to educate themselves.

Internet services may be used only for lawful purposes. Use of this service in violation of any local, state or federal regulation is prohibited and will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. This includes, but is not limited to, distribution of copyrighted material without proper permission. Any use of the Internet for political lobbying is strictly prohibited. Users may not invade the privacy of others, make any attempt to damage computer equipment or software or engage in any activity that is harassing or defamatory.

Violations may result in loss of access. Unlawful activities will be dealt with in an appropriate manner.

Library staff and volunteers are not expected to be experts on the Internet. Staff is limited, in both time and advanced knowledge, in the amount of help they can give. Books and other materials are available, or patrons can sign up for computer help sessions when scheduled.

Internet use requires a valid library card. All registered patrons are entitled to use their library card for two 1-hour sessions of computer time each day. If other patrons are queued in line for a computer, you may not use your 2 hours consecutively.

Patrons with accounts in good standing (9.99 and under in fines) who do not physically have their library card with them, but would like to use a public computer, will be given a free Visitor Pass after presenting a staff member with a photo ID with an address matching their patron profile.

Visitor passes will be sold for \$1 to patrons not registered at a library within the Mid-Hudson Library System. They are good for 2 hours of computer time on the day it is issued.

The cost of a visitor pass for patrons with fines between \$10 and \$50 is \$1, and \$2 for patrons with fines over \$50.01. A valid photo ID must be presented; the fee will be applied toward the fines on that patron account.

If a child or teen logs on to a public computer with his or her library card, the library assumes no responsibility and must presume the minor has been granted parental permission to do so. For this reason, visitor passes cannot be given to minors under 18 years old unless the parent is present and consents.

The library cannot take over the parent's responsibility to monitor the child's Internet use to see it conforms to the parent's standards. We recommend that parents tell their children not to give out their names, addresses or phone numbers on the Internet.

Use of the information accessed by the Internet is at the user's risk. Many different people add information to the Internet and the Dover Plains Library denies responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information accessed through the Internet. Patrons must evaluate all information for themselves.

Use of the library's computers for pornographic, obscene material or materials harmful to minors is illegal and prohibited. The library staff will enforce this policy, and violation will result in the loss of computer privileges and could include legal action and/or police intervention.

Use of the computers are on a first come first served basis. There is a time limit of one hour, but if no one is waiting you may continue until the computer is needed. At this time you must make the computer available within 15 minutes of being informed by library staff.

Patrons desiring to print information from the Internet will be charged 25 cents per page for black and white and 50 cents for color.

Personal software may not be used on the Dover Plains Library computers. No programs may be downloaded.

Software downloaded from the Internet may contain viruses and patrons need to have virus checking software on their own computers. The Dover Plains Library is not responsible for damage to a patron's computer, or for any loss of data, damage or liability that may occur from patron use of the library's computer.

The Dover Plains Library reserves the right to terminate Internet services to anyone who, in the opinion of the Library, has used the Internet irresponsibly, unlawfully or in violation of the policies explained above. By signing below, you agree to abide by the above stated policies.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or guardian signature (if under 18)

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Approved 6/5/2013

Amended 1/3/2017- Visitor Pass Policy and For-Profit Use Policy