

Library Equipment Usage

In response to advances in technology and the changing needs of the community, the Library endeavors to develop collections, resources and services that continue to meet the cultural, informational, recreational, and educational needs of our community. The Library does not monitor and has no control over information accessed electronically and cannot be held responsible for its content. Users should be aware that the Internet is not a secure medium and that third parties may be able to obtain information regarding Users' activities. Library staff cannot control web content that often changes rapidly and unpredictably. The Library makes no warranty, expressed or implied, for the timeliness, accuracy, or usefulness for a particular purpose, of information accessed via the Internet.

Computer use requires patrons to sign in at the circulation desk and is 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 that time, you must make the computer available within 15 minutes of being informed by Library staff.

Printing documents from the public computers costs 25 cents per page for black and white, and 50 cents per page for color. Personal software may not be used on the Library computers. No programs may be downloaded. Software downloaded from the Internet may contain viruses. The 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 a Library computer. The 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. If a child or teen logs on to a public computer, the Library assumes no responsibility and must presume the minor has been granted parental permission to do so. The Library cannot monitor a child's Internet use. We recommend that parents educate their children about Internet safety and advise them not to give out their names, addresses or phone numbers on the Internet.

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 may provide basic assistance for use of electronic resources and equipment.

The Dover Plains Library reserves the right to terminate Internet services of anyone who, in the opinion of the Library, has used the Internet irresponsibly, unlawfully or in violation of the policies explained above.

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Internet Use Policy

In support of the Library's mission statement to provide residents of all ages with information in a variety of formats, access to the Internet is available to all Library patrons as an informational, educational, and recreational resource.

In conjunction with the Library's Unattended Child policy, the Library staff does not act in loco parentis when any child is utilizing these resources. Monitoring or limiting access to the Internet by a child is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian, not the Library staff.

Downloading and saving information to the hard drive is not permitted. This does not pertain to wireless access. Information can also be downloaded to a patron's personal USB.

The Library staff is available to provide limited assistance and has the authority to determine appropriate use of the Internet at the Library.

The Internet is an unregulated medium and the Library assumes no responsibility for content or accuracy of the information retrieved. Electronic mail, chat rooms, etc. are not regulated and some may not be appropriate or safe. Personal information may not be safe to disclose via the Internet.

Technical difficulties often interrupt the relay of information; at times the network will not be operating because of these difficulties.

Violators of these rules will be denied the privilege of using the Internet at the Library.

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Website Policy

The Library maintains a website on the Internet to share information with our patrons. While every effort is made to assure the accuracy and authority of the facts, the Library cannot guarantee that every site will maintain a consistent level of data that meets our standards.

Connecting sites are selected from government publications, award winning lists, and professional organizations. These sites are checked on a regular basis to ensure that they remain useful and as accurate as possible. It remains the responsibility of the searcher to use the Internet in a responsible manner and with a questioning mind.

Information posted from this Library is reviewed and updated on a regular basis. The staff strives to verify and maintain the timeliness and accuracy of all postings.

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Wireless Use Policy

The Library provides free public access to the Internet via a Wi-Fi network. It is expected that patrons who use the Internet via the Library's network will do so in a responsible and legal way. The purpose of this policy is to ensure appropriate use of the Library's Wi-Fi network.

The Library provides free public access to the Internet as an informational, educational and recreational resource. Use of the Internet via the Library's Wi-Fi network via mobile devices (e.g. laptops, netbooks, iPads, smart phones, etc.) is bound by this policy and the Internet Use Policy.

Users must not engage in any illegal activities (e.g. hacking, pirating, downloading illegal materials, etc.) or in any activities inconsistent with this policy and the Internet Use Policy. Wireless users attest that they have read and will adhere to these policies.

Printing is not available on the wireless network, but users may save their work to a USB drive and use the Library's public Internet computers to print, as available.

Users of the wireless network may plug their mobile devices into electrical outlets provided the power cords do not extend into aisles or walkways.

Users of laptops, netbooks, and other related devices are expected to be considerate of patrons nearby and are required to use headphones when playing movies, music and games or when any other software program generates sound.

Very limited technical support is available through Library personnel. The Library cannot guarantee that all hardware will work with the wireless connection, and the Library is not responsible for any changes users make to their device settings.

The Library reserves the right to limit the amount of bandwidth in use by any user of the wireless network, particularly if there are multiple users of Wi-Fi at the same time. The Library also reserves the right to end wireless sessions of anyone in violation of this policy or the Internet Use Policy.

The Library shall not have any responsibility or liability for any claims relating to the loss, damage, or interception of any information, data, work product, or other materials viewed, searched, or stored on users' mobile devices. Anti-virus and security protection are the responsibility of the user.

Wireless users should be certain that their laptops and other devices are secure at all times and should never be left unattended in the library, even for brief periods of time. Theft of such devices are not the responsibility of the Library.

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Social Media Policy

The Library considers online and social media channels to be the same as other communications and service delivery channels. The same standards, policies, and guidelines apply to online and social media as all other forms of Library communication, and the same quality of service will be provided.

Library social software tools provide a limited (or designated) public forum to facilitate the sharing of ideas, opinions and information about library-related subjects and issues. They are intended to create a welcoming and inviting online space where Library users will find useful, informative and entertaining information and may interact with Library staff and other Library users. Social software is defined as any web application, site or account offered by the library that facilitates the sharing of opinions and information about library related subjects and issues. Social software includes such formats as blogs, listservs, websites, social network pages or posts to community reviews and customer ratings of library materials.

While the Library encourages an open forum, posts and comments are moderated by Library staff. The Library reserves the right, within its sole discretion, to remove submissions or comments that are unlawful or violate this policy.

Rules for Commenting and Posting:

- Stay on topic. Comments and posts should be library related.
- Duplicate posts from the same individual will be deleted.
- Don't include personal information about yourself or others.
- The library is not responsible for user generated content. A posted comment is the opinion of the user only, and publication of a comment does not imply endorsement or agreement by The Library.
- Spam and commercial content will be removed.
- Individuals should not post anything that they do not have the right to post. The Library follows a notice-and-takedown procedure for complaints of copyright.
- Posts containing offensive, obscene, threatening or abusive language, or hate speech are strictly prohibited and will be deleted. Authorities may be contacted.
- Users may report concerns. Moderators will review those concerns as soon as possible.

By choosing to comment you agree to these rules.

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