

Internet Policy

The Westhampton Free Library provides open access to the Internet. Providing Internet access to our patrons is considered an extension of the traditional reference and informational services offered by the Library.

While the Library provides access to the Internet, it has no control over the information available on the Internet. Information on the Internet may be inaccurate, incomplete, dated or offensive to some individuals. Library patrons are responsible for their choice of sites, and users must use Internet resources with discretion. See item #6.

It is expected that all individuals, regardless of age, who utilize the Library's computers will take responsibility for their actions and words. All users are also expected to respect the rights of other computer users. The following guidelines set for the parameters of acceptable use:

1. The Westhampton Free Library assumes no responsibility for the content, quality, accuracy or currency of information obtained by its patrons through the Internet. Patrons utilize all such information at their own risk.
2. The Westhampton Free Library assumes no responsibility for costs, liabilities, claims, or damages arising from the use of the Internet.
3. Library staff will assist with Internet use as time permits, but cannot offer personal instruction.
4. Printouts are 25¢ per page in black & white and color. Students and Library cardholders utilizing Library databases for research may request a waiver of print fees from the reference librarian.
5. The Westhampton Free Library cannot ensure and makes no representation that children and youth will not access age-inappropriate Web sites. We recommend that parents/legal guardians take an active interest in and responsibility for their children's Internet use.
6. The Library provides wireless access to the Internet for patrons with their own wireless-enabled devices. Wireless networks are not secure. Patrons utilize this free service at their own risk.
7. Use of this service for unlawful purposes or transmission of any material in violation of any U.S. or New York State regulations is strictly prohibited.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Copyrighted materials
 - Threatening or obscene material
 - Expressions of bigotry, racism or hate
 - Material that is protected by U.S. Trade Law
 - Transmittal of chain letters, advertisements or mass solicitations
8. Patrons utilizing the Library's computers must not damage, abuse or break the hardware. Patrons are not permitted to: save documents on the hard drive; to change the system files or settings; or to otherwise degrade, disrupt or destroy the computers.

9. Any computer user who performs any of the actions referred to in paragraph 9 hereof, or who is using a computer to access inappropriate or unauthorized materials will lose their Internet privileges and the Library reserves its right to pursue any civil and/or criminal action available to it to remedy any and all damage incurred..

Adopted by the Board of Trustees: October 10, 2003
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