

Internet and Computer Use

Policy:

Internet Use In keeping with the East Moline Public Library's mission to help support an informed and educated community, the Library provides free public access to resources on the Internet. The Library adheres to the American Library Association's policy statement: Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks: an interpretation of the LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS which supports the right of individuals to choose library materials for themselves, including those in electronic formats.

As with all other library materials, children's access to and use of the Internet is the sole responsibility of the child's parent or legal guardian. The Internet may provide access to information, content and services some of which parents may feel is inappropriate or objectionable for their own children. The Library and its staff cannot censor access to materials or prevent users from encountering materials on the Internet that they may find offensive. Parents should let their children know about information, content and services on the Internet that they do not want them to access or use. Or, parents should supervise their own child's Internet sessions at the Library.

- The Internet offers access to many valuable local, national, and international sources of information. By providing the Internet, Library users are able to expand their access to information far beyond the Library's budgetary or space constraints. In choosing sources to link to the East Moline Public Library home page, Library staff follows accepted library selection criteria for electronic resources. Not all sources on the Internet, however, provide accurate, complete, or current information. Each user must evaluate the validity and usefulness of information found on the Internet.
- The Library does not monitor and has no control over information accessed through the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. The Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or use of information obtained through its electronic information systems, or any consequences thereof.
- Materials obtained or copied from the Internet may be subject to copyright laws. U.S. copyright law (Title 17, U.S. Code) prohibits the unauthorized reproduction or distribution of copyrighted materials, except as permitted by the principles of fair use. Users may not copy or distribute electronic materials (including electronic mail, text, images, programs, or data) without the explicit permission of the copyright holder. Any responsibility for any consequences of copyright infringement lies with the user. The East Moline Public Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility resulting from such use.

Procedure:

1. In the adult computer area, users are guaranteed one hour of use. In the children's computer area, users are guaranteed on half-hour of use. If no one is waiting for a computer at the end of that time, a user may stay on the computer until it is needed by another patron. The person who has been on the longest time over an hour (half-hour in children's) shall be the first person asked to terminate their session in the event of a waiting list.
2. Computers in the children's area are given to those under 18 as a first priority. An adult may be asked to terminate their session early if there is a child (age 17 and younger) waiting to use the computer. Between the hours of 3pm and 8pm Monday through Friday, during the school year,

adults (18 and older) may not use the computers in the children's room unless they are printing in color.

3. Viewing pornography is not permitted on any computer at any time.
4. Children age 8 and younger must have an adult accompanying them to the library, and should have an adult in the same room as them when they use a computer. Children under the age of 6 must have a parent sitting next to them or with them to use a computer. As children are given priority in the children's room, adults will be given priority in the adult area. A child 8 and younger may be asked to terminate their session in the adult computer area before the end of an hour if there is an adult waiting.