

Computer & Internet Use Policy

Information Access

The Somerset County Library System provides access to information in many formats including printed materials, audio-visual items, electronic databases and the Internet.

Responsibilities of Internet Users

Information found on the Internet is provided by millions of people and organizations from around the world. Not all information found on the Internet is accurate, up-to-date, legal or acceptable to all individuals. The library does not control information found on the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. Individuals who use the Internet are responsible for evaluating the validity and appropriateness of the information that they access.

Disclaimer

The Somerset County Library System adheres to the Children's Internet Protection Act. This means that public computers are equipped with filtering software and that library staff may terminate a user's computer time if the user is accessing inappropriate content, i.e. (a) obscene, (b) child pornography, or (c) harmful to minors (for computers that are accessed by minors), as defined by this federal law. However, patrons should be aware that filtering software is not perfect and user discretion is advised.

The library claims no representations or warranties to the current accuracy of this information for your particular purpose. The use of this information for yourself is at your own risk. The information provided is for your use only and cannot be sold. The Somerset County Library System will not be liable for any damages, whether direct, consequential, incidental, or on claim for attorney fees arising out of use or inability to use the information provided.

Library Home Pages and Links

The library home pages, accessed at www.somelibrary.org are designed and maintained by library staff. The library assumes responsibility only for the information provided on its home pages. Links are not endorsements of these sites and the library assumes no responsibility for these sites.

Internet Access and Use

For computer access, patrons must have fines less than \$5 (five dollars) on their account. The library does not provide e-mail accounts; however, patrons may access their free, web-based e-mail accounts through library terminals. The use of library terminals for the transmission, dissemination and/or duplication of information is regulated by state and federal laws. All libraries must comply with these laws. Library policy forbids the access of illegal material on its terminals.

Patrons cannot corrupt, alter, damage or otherwise compromise the library equipment or software. No persons may send, receive, view or download any illegal material. Word processing documents may be saved on CD writer disks available for purchase from the circulation desk.

Internet Use by Minors

As with all library materials, supervision of a child's use of the Internet is the responsibility of a parent or legal guardian. Some of the material on the Internet may be objectionable. You may see things on the Internet that you do not wish your children to view. Please provide guidance to your children in their use of the Internet. Children under the age of 8 years old must be accompanied by an adult.

Guidelines for Use of Computer Workstations:

- To use a computer terminal, patrons must use a current library card and have fines less than \$5 (five dollars) on their account.
- Guest passes are available for out of area visitors from a library staff member.
- Patrons may use computer terminals for a maximum of two hours per day.
- Only one person per computer.
- Do not move furniture, including tables and chairs.
- No food or drink.
- No cell phones.
- No loud talking or using devices (e.g., radios, MP3 players) at loud volume settings (headphones can be purchased at the circulation desk).
- Do not violate another user's privacy.
- Do not violate copyright law or software licensing agreements.
- Patrons must follow Somerset County Library System's Rules of Conduct.
- Violation of these guidelines may result in the loss of computer access. Patrons pursuing unlawful activities will be asked to leave the library.