



Petoskey
DISTRICT LIBRARY

Computer / Internet Use Policy:

Approved: June 30, 2015

It is the policy of the Petoskey District Library to provide access to computers and software for library patrons' use to provide free and equal access to information, research, and independent learning to our citizens. The Library staff endeavor to develop collections, resources, and services that meet the informational, recreational, educational, and independent learning needs of our diverse community. It is within this context that the Petoskey District Library offers access to the Internet and use of computers.

1. It is the policy of the Petoskey District Library to:
 - a. Prevent users over its computer network to transmit inappropriate material via the Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications;
 - b. Prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity;
 - c. Prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and
 - d. Comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)] and Michigan's Public Act 212 of 2000.
2. Library staff may monitor computer usage but has limited control over the information accessed through the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. Library staff may be available, to the best of their knowledge, to assist patrons with the Internet. Library patrons may encounter material that is inaccurate or that they consider offensive. Users need to be responsible information consumers, questioning the validity of the information found.
3. In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000 (PL 106-554), the Petoskey District Library filters Internet content coming into the library based on staff determination of community desires. Anyone aged 17 or older may request an override of the filtering device from the Reference Desk staff, for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.
4. While patrons 17 and older are free to access whatever Internet sites they wish, the library must also be mindful and respectful of the rights of other patrons (particularly children), to not be exposed to material and images they (or their parents) may find personally unsuitable. Therefore, staff members will request that a patron remove any images or text from a workstation screen if, in the staff member's judgment, the image or text is displayed in such a way that other patrons, particularly children, cannot avoid viewing it in the course of carrying out their business in the library.
5. All Internet resources accessible through the library are provided equally to all library users. Parents or guardians are responsible for the Internet information selected and/or accessed by their children. Parents are advised to supervise their children's Internet sessions.
6. Any patron who is asked to remove an image or text from the monitor and then continues to view said image or text, will be asked to leave the facility, in violation of the Petoskey District Library Code of Conduct.