

Public Internet Use and Guidelines Access

Pelham Public Library is committed to providing informational, educational, recreational, and cultural resources for library users of all ages and backgrounds. The library's goal in offering internet access is to enhance its existing collection in size and depth. Due to the unstructured and unregulated nature of the Internet, the Pelham Public Library cannot control or monitor information on the Internet, nor can it be held responsible for any materials accessed through it. Because there is no guarantee that information posted on the Internet is accurate, it is essential for you to read with care. If you are in doubt, check the sources; your librarians will be glad to assist you in evaluating the site. Library staff will apply the selection criteria outlined in the library's Collection Development Policy to provide links to recommended World Wide Web resources through the Pelham Public Library website. The Library's website also has links to guides for evaluating Internet information and websites.

The Pelham Public Library is supported by the Town Technology Plan. Participation in the Town Technology Plan requires us to limit access to internet sites by using filtering software (which is not under the control of the library). If you have trouble accessing information you may choose to continue when you encounter a flagged website. You may also ask a librarian for assistance.

Purposes and Priorities

Parents or other legal guardians are responsible for their children's use of the Internet in the library, just as they are for their use of materials in the library's collections. We urge parents to supervise their children's use of the Internet.

You may not use the library's computers for any illegal purposes including unauthorized access, activities to disrupt the network, users, or equipment, software piracy, or transmission of copyrighted materials without approval. These activities are not protected by the library's privacy policy.

You are expected to engage in responsible, ethical use of the Internet which includes not sending, receiving, printing, or displaying text or graphics which may reasonably be construed as obscene or objectionable to library users or staff and which therefore create a hostile environment. If a library staff person asks you to stop viewing a site that is creating a hostile environment, you are expected to comply promptly and not to view the same or similar sites again.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, there may be times when access to the Internet is not possible. We remind users that confidentiality and privacy cannot be guaranteed when using email and the Internet.

Internet Training

If you have basic questions about Internet access the reference staff will be happy to help. The library has many books and magazines about the Internet to provide you with further information.

Using and Reserving Terminals

Please limit your time to one hour. The time limit in the Young Adult Area during after school hours is 30 minutes. You must save your work to a USB flash drive. The Library takes measures to protect your privacy when you use library computers. All files saved to the hard drive and all internet browsing history are deleted every night.

No more than two people may use a computer at a time. Printing charges are 10 cents per page. Headphones are necessary for accessing audio files on public computers. They may be purchased at the Circulation Desk for \$1.00

Wi-Fi Access

Wireless access is available at Pelham Public Library. You are responsible for your own computer. Pelham Public Library staff members will not adjust settings or make any changes to your computer. Users should be aware that Wi-Fi networks are not secure and all necessary precautions should be taken to protect their equipment and data. Transferring personal data should be avoided. Filtering software is also in place on the WIFI network and is not in control of the library.

--Adapted from the Howe Public Library Internet Policy--

Approved by the Pelham Public Library Board of Trustees on May 15, 2013.