

Fort Dodge Public Library

Internet Access

Purpose

Fort Dodge Public Library recognizes that Internet access is an essential component of modern life. It supports access to information, participation in work and educational opportunities, communication with others, and engagement in cultural and leisure activities. The Library is committed to providing fast, reliable Internet service for all patrons.

As a traditional forum for the free and open exchange of information, the Library provides access to a wide range of online resources. Access to information available on the Internet does not constitute endorsement of its content by the Library. Fort Dodge Public Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from the use of, or reliance upon, information obtained through the Internet.

General Policies

Public Internet access is available on Library computers and through wireless connections throughout the building. All users are expected to comply with FDPL's Computer Use policy and all other applicable Library policies and procedures.

To support a welcoming and comfortable environment for all ages, FDPL uses filtering software on both wired and wireless Internet access. Filtering software is designed to block websites that depict pornography. However, no filtering program is fully accurate, and filtering is not a substitute for parental judgment or supervision.

Filters on public access computers may be disabled by Library staff when a blocked site is appropriate for viewing in a public setting.

Library staff may ask individuals to stop viewing or listening to content that disrupts the library environment, interferes with Library operations, or threatens the safety or comfort of others.

Patrons are responsible for evaluating the accuracy, validity, and appropriateness of the information or content they access online.

Parents or legal guardians are solely responsible for monitoring and guiding their children's Internet use. FDPL does not assume responsibility for enforcing any restrictions a parent or guardian may place on a minor's access to online resources.

The Internet is not a secure or private environment. FDPL cannot guarantee the confidentiality of data transmitted or received. Patrons conducting financial or other confidential transactions do so at their own risk.

Because of the public nature of the Library environment, privacy cannot be guaranteed, and others may inadvertently view content displayed on screens. Users are expected to be considerate of others when accessing material that may reasonably be considered offensive.

Users must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, including but not limited to laws governing copyright, licensing agreements, fraud, privacy, and obscenity. Illegal, disruptive, or destructive use of FDPL's Internet services may result in suspension or loss of Internet or Library privileges.

Security for personal wireless devices rests solely with the owner. The Library is not responsible for damage to personal devices, loss of data, or any liability arising from use of its Internet services.

Library staff may offer basic guidance for accessing Library resources on personal devices, but they cannot provide technical support or troubleshooting.

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