ELMHURST
PUBLIC LIBRARY

INTERNET ACCESS POLICY

The Elmhurst Public Library offers access to the Internet to support the Library's mission of providing patrons with opportunities to connect, create, and explore in an online environment.

Use of the Internet

Internet access is filtered in accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act. Patrons should be aware that filters are not 100% effective. Patrons automatically accept the online User Agreement when they access the Internet from one of the Library's computers. Violation of the User Agreement shall result in loss of Internet use privileges.

The Library has no control over content on the Internet. Parents or legal guardians must accept full responsibility for teaching their child appropriate Internet behavior and for supervising the child's use of the Internet so that inappropriate matter is not accessed. Patrons should exercise caution in e-mail and other direct communications and avoid disclosing personal information.

Patron Assistance and Instruction

Library staff provide assistance in the use of the Internet. This assistance will include strategies for searching the Internet and basic navigation techniques. Depending upon the amount of time available, some assistance may be provided for more specific aspects of Internet use, such as downloading, etc. The Library collection includes instructional materials for using the Internet, and formal instruction is available at scheduled times.

Use of Equipment and Networks

The Library reserves the right to limit the speed of bandwidth-intensive applications used by individual patrons to preserve sufficient bandwidth for search applications and Library operations. Elmhurst Public Library requires that Library patrons using the Internet via Library computers or their own equipment do so within the guidelines of acceptable use. The following activities are unacceptable:

- use of the Internet for any purpose which results in the harassment of other patrons
- destruction of, damage to or unauthorized alteration of the Library's computer equipment, software, or network security procedures
- use of the Internet in any way which violates a Federal or State law, including copyright laws. Patrons are subject to prosecution for violating copyright laws.
- use of electronic information networks accessed via the Internet in any way which violates licensing and payment agreements between Elmhurst Public Library and network/database providers
- unauthorized duplication of copyright protected software or violation of software license agreements
- violation of system security
- behavior that is disruptive to other users, including but not limited to display of material that is considered offensive to view in a public place

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