

INTERNET USE POLICY *Updated 2/28/2011*

Access

The Fremont County Library offers access to the Internet. Internet resources accessible through the Library are provided equally to all library users. The Fremont County Public Library System homepage is designed to offer easy and convenient access to valuable local, national, and international sources of information.

The American Library Association's Resolution on the Use of Filtering Software in Libraries (affirmed by Fremont County Public Library System Board of Directors) ". . . the use of filtering software to block access to constitutionally protected speech violates the Library Bill of Rights"; therefore, the Fremont County Public Library System will not impose blocking or filtering software to limit access to Internet sites. However, patrons are asked to respect community standards and abide by Wyoming State Statutes. [WS 6-3-201; WS 6-4-301; WS 6-2-503; and other offenses defined under Title 6.]

Absolute privacy for patrons using electronic resources in the Library cannot be guaranteed. Please see Confidentiality policy on page 15 of the Fremont County Library System Organizational and Personnel Policy Manual.

Responsibilities of Users

Access, use, or dissemination of information via the Internet in the Library is the responsibility of the user. In the case of minors, it is a joint responsibility of the user and the parent or guardian. Fremont County Library System is part of a statewide integrated library network [WYLD]. Use of WYLD CAT or other Library access implicitly acknowledges your acceptance of and agreement to the preceding Internet access guidelines.

Responsibilities of Computer Users

- The FCLS requires computer users to respect the rights and sensibilities of all library users.
- Some Internet sites are inappropriate for viewing in a public setting.
- Users should refrain from the use of Internet sounds and visuals that may disrupt the ability of other library patrons to use the library and its resources.
- Library staff reserves the right to end Internet sessions when sexually explicit or pornographic materials are displayed.

Internet Safety

Parents and guardians are responsible for supervising their children's Internet sessions.

- Library staff is available to provide suggestions and assistance in conducting online research and evaluation of Web sites.
- In addition, they may be available to teach basic computer use skills and to assist parents in guiding their children to use Internet resources safely and appropriately.
- Individual help is provided as time permits in the use of applications on the FCLS network.
- The library may provide information on child safety and the internet.

Software/Hardware

- Library software is copyrighted and may not be reproduced.
- Users may not load their own or any other software on library equipment. This includes, but is not limited to, disks that are checked out, disks in books that may be checked out, and disks in reference materials that must remain in the library.
- Users are not permitted to store any software or other data on the hard drives of the library's computers or alter the programs currently installed on the systems.
- Anyone tampering with any library hardware or software will be denied access to library computers in the future, and also may lose their library privileges.
- Users access the library computer hardware, software and documentation at their own risk. The Fremont County Library System is not responsible for equipment malfunction, loss of data, any damages to the user's disks, data etc. or electronic transactions of any type which are related to the public use of library computer resources.

Illegal and Unacceptable Uses

People may use the library computers only for legal purposes. Examples of unacceptable uses include but are not limited to:

- Display of sexually explicit or pornographic materials;
- Harassment of other users or violation of their privacy;
- Libeling, slandering or maliciously offending other users;
- Violation of copyright laws or software licensing agreements;
- Attempting to crash, degrade performance or gain unauthorized access to the FCLS's or to other computer systems and networks;
- Damaging equipment, software or data belonging to the FCLS or other users.
- Violations may result in the loss of Internet and/or library privileges. Illegal use of the computers also may be subject to prosecution by local, state or federal authorities.