

The Internet

The Internet has been variously defined as a group of worldwide information resources and a network of computer networks.

The Moline Public Library cannot control what is available on the Internet as the content is constantly changing and is not monitored. This policy is interpreted in conjunction with other existing policies, copies of which are available upon request.

Patron Assistance and Instruction

Librarians do not provide in-depth computer use training. However, they may offer search suggestions or print versions of Internet guides which are available upon request.

Computer Workstation Limitations

Due to limited disk drive space and/or printing capabilities, the Moline Public Library does not allow users to download files onto a computer's hard drive. Documents may be saved to a personal storage device. The Moline Public Library does not directly provide e-mail accounts. Encryption is not available on the Moline Public Library's Internet terminals. Due to this limitation and because computers are in public view, patrons are discouraged from using these terminals for sending personal information, such as credit card or social security numbers.

User Responsibilities

The Internet is a global electronic network which provides access to a wide variety of material and opinions from diverse points of view. Some Moline Public Library users may consider certain information available via the Internet controversial or offensive. The Moline Public Library has no control over the information available via the Internet.

It is not possible, or within the role of the Library staff, to monitor users. However, Internet users should be aware that the viewing of certain materials in the Moline Public Library may be considered improper in time, place, or matter. Internet access is not to be used for any unlawful activities. The Moline Public Library reserves the right to end an Internet session at any time if the user is engaged in unlawful activity, creating a disturbance, or if what is being viewed is deemed inappropriate under the circumstances. Patrons are subject to the Moline Public Library's Disruptive Behavior Policy and the Unattended Children's Policy which states that children who are under the age of 13 may not be left by themselves in the Moline Public Library.

Users will be held financially responsible for any damage or alteration to equipment or software that results from any misuse of equipment.

Supervision of Children

The responsibility for supervision of children's use of any Moline Public Library materials, including computer access, belongs to the parents or guardians of the child. Some material available on the Internet may be deemed inappropriate for children by their parents or guardians. Parents or guardians, not the Moline Public Library or its staff, are responsible for the information accessed by children.

Procedures for Use

The Moline Public Library reserves the right to establish procedures for use of public computer workstations in order to make access available to all persons on a timely basis. Public use computer procedures are available on the Moline Public Library's public access computers and copies are available at the Moline Public Library's Information Services Desks.

The User in good standing (as defined by the policies of the Integrated Library System) will be charged a \$1/hour usage fee if they cannot present a card in the area library system. This includes unincorporated Moline residents and out of area visitors.

*Board Approved 03/98
Revised 01/11*

Next Review 01/13