Carnegie-Stout Public Library
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Carnegie-Stout PUBLIC LIBRARY
Check out the possibilities!

Carnegie-Stout Public Library
Internet Use Policy

To fulfill its mission of providing public access to information of all types in a wide range of formats, the Carnegie-Stout Public Library provides access to Internet resources. The Internet offers access to many valuable local, national, and international sources of information; however, some information found on the Internet may be inaccurate, incomplete, dated, or offensive to some individuals. Patrons accessing the Internet must evaluate the validity and appropriateness of information found.

I. Access to Internet Resources

1. The library affirms the right of every individual to have access to constitutionally protected material; however, the library must also respect the right of patrons not to be inadvertently exposed to content that they may find objectionable. Exposing unwilling patrons or staff to pornography – defined as the depiction of erotic behavior intended to cause sexual excitement -- can be interpreted as sexual harassment. Users will not send, receive, or display text or graphics which may reasonably be construed as pornography. The library staff will be the arbiter of what may be construed as unacceptable content and reserves the right to ban patrons from using Internet computers who violate this policy.

2. The library affirms the right and responsibility of parents to determine, and monitor, their children's use of all library materials and resources, including the Internet. The library assumes no responsibility for the use of the Internet by children. Parents are encouraged to work with and supervise their minor children's Internet sessions.

II. Conditions and Terms of Use

1. Patrons must use their own valid Carnegie-Stout Public Library card to access the Internet at the library. Patrons using a card that is not issued in their name may lose Internet privileges for a period of time. Out of town visitors who do not have a library card may be eligible to obtain a guest card by providing a driver's license, or other valid form of identification.
2. Patrons shall assume the full responsibility for learning to use computers and resources.
3. The library offers Internet stations on a first-come, first-served basis unless a reservation has been made.

4. The library offers Internet access computer restricted by age: children (up to age 12), teens (ages 13-17) and adults (age 18 and above). Laptop computers are available for use in the library for those ages 13 and above.
5. Laptop computers must be returned by the end of the agreed period of time or a minimum charge of $10 will be applied to the patron's library account. After the first hour, fees will be charged at $10 per hour in increments of $5.00 per half hour.
6. Patrons are responsible for a laptop computer while using the equipment and repairs required due to damage while checked out may be up to, but not to exceed, the replacement cost of $2,500.
7. Due to the potential damage food and beverages may cause to computer equipment, they are not allowed.
8. The library is not responsible for the receipt of unwanted communications, including but not limited to, viruses when using the wireless network.
9. The library expects all patrons accessing the Internet on its computers to be responsible and ethical users by not using computers to:

    - Invade the privacy of others
    - Harassing or slandering others
    - Distribute unsolicited advertising
    - Make unauthorized entry into other computers, or communication services or resources
    - Using the Internet for any illegal activity including, but not limited to, copyright infringement, fraud, propagation of computer viruses, gambling, or accessing material deemed obscene by Iowa Code 728.1-728.3.

10. Users will be expected to comply with all conditions and terms of use of the Internet set forth in this policy. Failure to use the computer in a responsible manner will result in loss of Internet privileges in the library.

Paula Connors

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Paula Connors, President
Library Board of Trustees

By the Carnegie-Stout Public Library
Library Board of Trustees
Adopted September 1996
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