

Bridgeport Public Library Internet Use and Safety Policy

Bridgeport Public Library provides free and open public access to the Internet. The Library also provides free wireless service.

The Internet is available on computers in the public areas of the Library. These areas are shared with Library users of all ages. Individuals using computers are asked to consider that some of the information and/or images they access may be offensive to other library patrons, especially children.

The Internet Safety Policy's purpose is to prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; to prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; to prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information; and to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), the Library filters all its computers. As the law requires, the Library will disable filtered Internet access to persons 18 or older who request it for bona fide research or any other lawful purposes.

As a Federal Depository library, the Library must provide unfiltered access to all Federal Government Information products to users of any age regardless of format. [<https://www.fdlp.gov/requirements-guidance-2/guidance/18-free-public-access>. Updated April 14, 2015. Accessed December 23, 2016.]

In keeping with Library Rules of Conduct, it is expected that Library patrons will refrain from making noise, talking loudly or using Library equipment and/or personal electronic devices in a manner disturbing to other Library users. The Library, in general, is a quiet zone.

The Library cannot guarantee complete privacy; therefore, all computers should be considered public devices. The Library does not provide space for personal home pages or file transfer capabilities.

Individuals using Library computers are required to adhere to copyright and other relevant laws and must not alter the configuration of Library computers.

Bridgeport has received funds from the FCC Emergency Connectivity Fund for the purpose of filling unmet community needs for devices that provide connectivity (i.e. hotspots, laptops, Chromebooks, tablets). When borrowing devices purchased in whole or part by these funds, borrowers will affirm in writing that by borrowing these connected devices (i.e. hotspots, laptops, Chromebooks, tablets), the library is helping them fill an unmet need for broadband service and/or devices, and that without the availability of said devices, they would not otherwise have access to broadband service or connected devices.

Parents or legal guardians of minor children must assume responsibility for their child's use of the Internet while at the Library.

Revised and approved by the Library Board of Directors: 03/14/2020