

Internet Access

Access to the Internet is only one resource that the Library provides. While it can be a useful tool for research, it is not always a substitute for other library resources. Not all of the information available is accurate, current or complete and may be offensive in nature or inappropriate. The Library assumes no responsibility for the accuracy, content, completeness or type of information found on the Internet. Patrons are encouraged to ask the Reference staff for assistance in finding the best resources for their informational needs. The New Milford Public Library is dedicated to providing a high level of access to its collections and to quality information resources.

The New Milford Public Library makes computers available so patrons can access the online catalog and full-text databases. The catalog is the fundamental service providing access to the library's print and non-print collections. Full-text databases have been selected by the Reference/Information Services & Children's Services Librarians in order to provide patrons with a wide variety of informational resources.

The online catalog and informational databases are available on all public access terminals in both the Children's and Adult libraries.

The Library is committed to providing patrons and staff with an environment that is welcoming and free from all forms of harassment. Although the Library cannot protect individuals from information and images that they may find disturbing, Internet users are expected to show consideration for others when viewing web pages since Internet computers are located in public areas that are shared by people of all ages and backgrounds.

The Library reserves the right to inspect and /or observe the use of its equipment and resources for the purposes of enforcement of these policies. Patrons will be required to discontinue the display of information or images that cause a disruption, particularly when those materials displayed are inappropriate in a public environment in accordance with CT. General Statutes and New Milford Public Library Policies (obscene and/or harmful to minors). The Library reserves the right to end an Internet session at anytime.

To insure fair access for all patrons, the Library establishes rules and procedures that regulate the use of these computers including, but not limited to, time allowed per session, number of sessions per day.

Internet Use Guidelines

The New Milford Public Library makes a number of computers available for Internet access.

- Use of Internet computers located in the Children's Library is limited to children 15 and under – no adults, unless a parent or guardian.
- Internet computers located in the Adult Reference department are available to children under 15 accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Responsibility of Users

All Library patrons must observe the policies and procedures established by the Library. Use of any Internet computer is for legal purposes only.

No patron shall use a library Internet computer in a way that disturbs or interferes with other patrons, staff or the operations of the Library. (CT. GS 11-32, 53a-181A, 182)

Patrons may not:

- View, print, distribute, send or receive images, text or graphics of obscene material that are inappropriate for a public and open environment and is prohibited. (in accordance with CT.GS 53a-193, 1-13)
- Display, disseminate, or exhibit to minors materials that are harmful to minors. (in accordance with CT. GS 53a-193, 1-13)
- Engage in activity that is deliberately offensive or creates an intimidating or hostile environment.
- Use an Internet computer to transmit threatening or harassing materials or communications.
- Damage, alter, or degrade computer equipment, peripherals, software, or configurations. (Network Security)
- Install any software. (Network Security)
- Reset terminals. Please seek Reference staff assistance. (Network Security)
- Use workstations in any capacity, for commercial, for-profit ventures.

Patrons may:

- Save to a removable device. Users may use a USB or may purchase a USB at the Main Desk. Cost of a disk is \$5 each.
- Print copies are 15c per page. Payment may be made at the print release station computer directly behind the adult reference desk or at the Children's Services desk.

It is expected that patrons respect the privacy of others and respect intellectual property by only downloading information or computer files with proper permission. (U.S. Copyright law, Title 17, U.S. Code)

Responsibility and Authority of Staff

Library staff members are responsible for implementing the Internet Use Guidelines and other New Milford Public Library policies. Library staff members are expected to take prompt and appropriate action to enforce the Internet Use Guidelines, and are authorized to terminate an Internet use session by anyone who fails to comply.

Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with the Internet Use Guidelines and other New Milford Public Library policies will result in a request from staff to discontinue activity. Continued violations will result in a request to leave the library, and may lead to suspension and/or a revocation of library privileges, including the right to visit the building and grounds. Repeat offenders ordered from the premises who do not comply may be subject to arrest and prosecution.

- **Users will receive one warning regarding these guidelines; continued violation(s) will result in a suspension of computer privileges and/ or Library privileges to be determined by the Supervisor on Duty.**