

Library Internet Use

The Kingston Public Library subscribes to the “Library Bill of Rights,” the “Freedom to Read,” and the “Freedom to View” statements of the American Library Association. As part of the Library’s mission to provide access to information in various forms, the Library has both public access and wireless access to the Internet for public use.

The Library is not responsible for information obtained via the Internet. The Internet is not governed or supervised by an entity; and although numerous sources are accurate in the information they provide, many are not.

Patrons wishing to use a public access computer or connect a personal laptop to the wireless system may do so by presenting either their library membership card or a driver’s license to the circulation clerk. (Roane County residents are **STRONGLY** encouraged to sign up for a library card at the time they request computer usage.) Children under the age of seventeen (17) cannot use the Internet unless they have a library membership card that clearly indicates their parent or guardian’s approval to do so; or are accompanied by a parent or guardian. Library Staff has the right to deny access to any public access computer if proof of age is questionable.

Library Staff will assist patrons in connecting to the Internet, and, if time permits, assist patrons with basic computer and reference questions, however, the Staff is not permitted to assist patrons with matters of personal nature – establishing on-line accounts, personal finance, job applications, etc. Computer use is limited to one (1) hour per session. Patrons wishing a second session are required to re-register with the circulation desk. Patrons working on a specific project that will require longer sessions can request additional time from the Circulation clerk at their initial registration.

The Library is governed by the Children’s Internet Protection Act. Its public access computers contain software that prohibits access to inappropriate sites, however, the same software also prohibits users from accessing personal information – bank accounts, email, job applications, etc. Any patron seventeen or above may request the filter be removed during their session. Removing the filter **does not** grant the patron permission to access inappropriate sites. Patrons who continue to misuse public computers will have future access denied.

If conditions warrant a patron’s need to switch to another public access computer, the patron will make their request known to the Circulation desk staff member who will reassign them to a different computer. The time will be reset to zero.

The Library provides a printer for public use. All copies – either from a public access computer or a personal laptop – may be printed at a cost per page posted

at the front desk. Patrons are encouraged to monitor Internet sites for they are responsible for all pages printed, even if they only meant to print one or two. Patrons assume all responsibilities of complying with the United States Copyright Code when they download or print information from the Internet.

No patron, staff, or volunteer is permitted to alter the configuration of any public access or staff computer without the approval of the Director or the State Technical Advisor.

Ear phones are available for purchase at the front desk for a posted fee, but it is recommended that patrons bring their own headphones.