

Twin Falls Public Library

Computer Use and Internet Access Policy

Board Approved October 2010

Revised August 2011

Revised March 2013

Revised February 2014

Computer Use The Twin Falls Public Library offers:

- 90 minutes each day for Twin Falls Public Library card holders, Lynx Consortium card holders, or Computer-Use-Only card holders.
- 30 minute sessions for Visitors who do not want to sign up for a Computer-Use—Only card. Each session costs 1.00 (those under 18 MUST be accompanied by a parent/ guardian).

Printing is available from all Computer stations on a prepaid basis. Black and white copies can be made at \$.15 each; color copies can be made at \$.25 each. Users may store up to \$25.00 in their prepaid accounts.

Our online public access catalog is designated for the use of the Library catalog and its related online activities. For general computer use, the patron must sign up for a 30 minute or a 90 minute computer session on a general use computer.

Patrons under the age of 18 are to use the Computer Stations in Youth Services. Parents and legal guardians are responsible for their children's use of the computer.

Two card holders may be seated at the same station for the duration of a session. A limited number of additional observers may be allowed in designated areas at the discretion of the Staff.

Flash drives may be purchased at the Library for use in the computers. Certain other peripheral devices may also be used on designated computers. Installation or downloading of software is not allowed.

The Library's computers may not be used for any illegal or criminal purposes including but not limited to:

- Attempting to damage computer equipment or software
- Causing degradation of system performance
- Violating copyright laws or software licensing agreements
- Engaging in any activity which is deliberately and maliciously offensive, libelous, or slanderous
- Using the Library's Internet service to gain unauthorized access to the Library's networks or computer systems or to any other network system.

Internet Access

Twin Falls Public Library provides access to the Internet in support of one of the Library's roles as a leading public provider of information and lifelong learning resources.

Even though the Library has no control over what information and images are available on the Internet, Library Staff is available to identify specific starting points for searches and links to sources which are considered accurate. The Library, however, assumes no responsibility for the content or accuracy of information or images which users may access on the Internet.

The Library provides a server-based filter on all Computer Stations to help prevent access to inappropriate content. An unfiltered computer can be made available for lawful purposes when requested by an adult. Nevertheless, because sites on the Internet change often, the Library cannot protect users from all information and images which they may find offensive or disturbing.

The Library affirms the right and responsibility of parents or legal guardians to guide their children's use of all Library resources, including the computers. The Library does not provide any monitoring except as may be required to ensure compliance with Library policies and/or procedures.

The Library computers, on which the public can access the Internet, are located in public areas which are shared by Library users of all ages, backgrounds and sensibilities. Individuals are to respect the sensibilities of others. Use of the computers for such things as accessing pornography, extreme violence or illegal activities is deemed inappropriate and unacceptable in the Library.

Users are also cautioned that because security in an electronic environment such as the Internet cannot be guaranteed, all transactions, files, and communication are vulnerable to unauthorized access and use, and therefore, should be considered public.

Disclaimers of Responsibility:

The Library assumes no responsibility and liability for any loss, harm or damage incurred by anyone using the Library's computing resources. All computer users at Twin Falls Public Library agree to hold the Library harmless from any claims, losses, damages or obligations related to the use of the computers.

The same rules of conduct which govern use of all Twin Falls Public Library facilities and collections apply to the use of the Computers.

Users who violate this Computer Use and Internet Access Policy will have a block placed upon their Library card. A second violation will result in another block being placed upon their card. At this time, a warning will be given that with a third violation, the patron will be banned from using the Library's computers for not less than two weeks. For serious or repeated offenses, users may be permanently banned at the Library Director's discretion.