Internet Policy

MISSION

The Parkersburg and Wood County Public Library is where our community goes to discover the joy of reading, stimulate their imagination, and delve into our history in a comfortable welcoming environment.

The following are not permitted:

- **VIEWING OF ANY GRAPHIC MATERIAL CONSIDERED OBSCENE, CHILD PORNOGRAPHY, OR HARMFUL TO MINORS**
- **INSTALLING SOFTWARE OF ANY KIND**

PROCEDURES

- Patrons will need to use their library card or guest pass with ID to sign in to use any of the computer stations in the library.
- Users are allowed a time block of sixty minutes during library hours, which can be extended up to sixty additional minutes per day. Extensions are dependent upon availability of computers. Administrators have the ability to extend or reduce computer time at their discretion.
- Patrons may request that staff override the internet filter to allow access to blocked websites, but staff members are not required to do so.
- Computers in the Young Reader's Room are for use by children under 16 years old. Staff may allow exceptions to this rule for adults with small children.
- The Main Library offers free wi-fi. Ask at the front desk for a login and password.
- Patrons must pay for printouts at the front desk. (BW=$.10/page & COLOR=$.50/page).
- Patrons may use their own flash drives for storing or accessing files.
- The library is not responsible for accessibility of files saved to or deleted from the public computers.
- **Library staff has the authority to end any session when there has been any inappropriate use of the computer resources and can deny future access. The Library may also pursue due process in situations that could be illegal.**

STAFF ASSISTANCE

Library staff will provide limited assistance with computers and technology. However, the library cannot guarantee that Internet-trained staff will be available at all times. The library does provide books, videos, other materials and classes that can be helpful to patrons in their Internet experience.

GUIDELINES

- All resources accessible through the library are provided equally to all adult library users. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians to monitor their child's use of these resources.
- The library currently filters Internet access to sites deemed pornographic in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act.
- Patrons must use workstations responsibly and should not change Internet or computer settings.
- Patrons should not attempt to modify or gain access to computers, files, passwords or data belonging to others, or to misrepresent oneself as another user.
- Patrons are not allowed to bring in software to load on library computer workstations.
- Patrons may not use the workstations fraudulently or unlawfully, including any activity prohibited by federal, state or local laws or ordinances. **Viewing of any graphic material considered obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors as stated in WV Code 61-8A, US Code Chapter 18-1460, and 18-2256 is ILLEGAL and could be prosecutable!**
- Internet users should be aware that the Internet is not a safe environment. Users should be careful about sending personal data and be wary of false information. It is the responsibility of parents or guardians to monitor the online activities of their children.
- The Library maintains records of personal computer use which may be requested under court order. Stations are located in public areas and are neither private nor secure. Patrons are encouraged to use good judgment in accessing material which may be objectionable to others and to sign out of any personal accounts (such as email or Facebook) before ending their session.
- Material on the Internet may be copyrighted, and users must respect U.S. copyright laws.