Public Technology Use Policy

I. Purpose

A. The Mount Prospect Public Library provides a variety of computing equipment, accessories, electronic resources, and internet connectivity for public use. This includes technology and resources accessed with equipment in the library, loaned by the library, via the library's website, and/or via the library's wireless internet connection. The purpose of this policy is to set specific limits and conditions of appropriate use.

II. Responsibilities and Limitations of Use

A. All library users must respect the rights of other users, the library's equipment, and all applicable license and contractual agreements. Users must comply with legal standards and respect copyright laws. The user should protect personal data. The library is not liable for information security on public networks.

B. Library patrons are asked to consider the public space used by individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and sensibilities when accessing potentially controversial, offensive, or disturbing information and images. The library reserves the right to require individuals to discontinue the display of information and images that disrupt the orderly operation of the library.

C. The Mount Prospect Public Library uses filtering software on all public access computers and internet connections. Filtering software cannot guarantee the appropriateness of internet sites for particular age groups nor that sites for legitimate research and value are not blocked. Individuals may request a blocked site be reviewed by speaking with staff.

D. Library staff may provide assistance to patrons only as time and staff knowledge permits. In-depth personal instruction or training may not be provided unless offered through a formal technology training program or appointment.

E. In order to provide equitable access to as many users as possible and to better meet the needs of residents, the library may place limits on the maximum amount of time that individuals may use library technology equipment.

III. Violations of Use

A. The library reserves the right to suspend the use of its computers and/or the library by anyone who uses library computing equipment, electronic devices, or a network for an illegal purpose or a purpose in violation of the standards outlined in this and other Mount Prospect Public Library policies.

B. Examples of unauthorized use include, but are not limited to:

1. Accessing potentially offensive or disturbing information and images.
2. Use of equipment or networks for any purpose that results in the harassment of other users.
3. Destruction of, damage to, or unauthorized alteration of the library's computer equipment, software, or network security procedures.
4. Conduct which violates Federal, State, or local law including copyright and licensing infringement.
5. Use of information or networks in any way which violates licensing and payment agreements between this library and network/database providers.
6. Unauthorized duplication of copyright protected software or violation of software license agreements.
7. Violations of system security, including but not limited to unauthorized access to or use of data, systems, or networks.

8. Unauthorized access to any data, system, or network from a system or network for any purpose which is not lawful, or which is intended to do harm.

C. Violation of any aspect of these guidelines may result in the loss of library or computer privileges.

IV. Validity of Information

A. The Mount Prospect Public Library has no control over the information accessed through the internet and makes no guarantees, either express or implied, regarding the quality of content or information available on the internet.

B. The library's provision of internet access to users does not mean or imply that the library endorses, sanctions, or promotes any content, commentary, or viewpoint found on the internet.

C. The library assumes responsibility only for the information contained on the Mount Prospect Public Library website.

D. The library is not responsible for the practices or the content of third-party resources, and offers external links, e-resources, and databases only as a service to our patrons. Any policies or user agreements set forth by third-party sites/resources and agreed to by that site's users remain in effect.

E. The library is a distributor of content sometimes supplied by third parties and patrons. Opinions, information, and content expressed or made available by third parties, including information providers, patrons, or others, are those of the respective author(s) or distributor(s) and do not necessarily state or reflect the opinions of the library.

V. Liability Disclaimer

A. Use of any of the library's computing equipment and networks is at the sole risk and discretion of the user.

B. The library is not responsible for any damages suffered, damage to personal data or devices, including the corruption or loss of data, resulting from user error, computer error, equipment malfunction, or service interruptions, nor for the content accessed via the library's network. The library is not responsible for the accuracy, quality, or objectionable nature of information obtained through the internet. Because technical problems related to accessing the internet and specific sites may occur, the library cannot guarantee that the internet or specific sites will always be accessible.

C. Individuals who use the library's internet access to engage in transactions that involve the disclosure of personal information and/or the transfer of money do so at their own risk. Staff shall not conduct business for library patrons. In addition, public use of the library's internet access may subject such transactions to security or privacy breaches. The library also is not liable for actions that may be taken by other users of the system that result in such breaches.

Revision History

This policy incorporates and replaces the previous Computer Equipment Policy and Guidelines for the Public, Internet Service Policy, and Online Terms of Use Policy. Approved 06/19/2025.