

Carbon County Library System

Public Computer Policy

The Carbon County Library System offers a variety of computer equipment and software for public use without charge. Printers are attached to most computers and for a small fee may be used to print documents or search results.

The Library System has the following types of computers available:

- Online catalog computers provide access to WYLDCAT (the Wyoming libraries' online catalog), as well as several large research databases, and are intended for information retrieval only.
- Internet access computers provide access to the Internet and other programs in keeping with the Library System's roles of providing equal access to information and resources to meet educational and recreational needs of the public.
- Wireless access to the Internet allows patrons with their own computers to connect to the Internet using the Library System's network.
- Stand-alone computers provide access to word processing and a variety of CD-ROM products but are not connected to WYLDCAT or the Internet.

While the Library System upholds the principle of intellectual freedom and respects the privacy of individual inquiry, both the Library and the patron share responsibility for assuring that access to the Internet is used appropriately in a public place. Internet users are expected to take into consideration the suitability of an Internet site for others within viewing distance of the computer screen.

The Library System does not filter, monitor or have control over information available over the Internet and cannot be held responsible for the content or quality of the information retrieved. Internet users are advised that some sites contain material which may be considered obscene, offensive, illegal, "harmful to minors" and/or inaccurate.

The Library System does not prohibit access to information and ideas based on age, regardless of the format in which they appear. Any restriction of a child's access to the Internet is entirely the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian. Children under 18 must have an Internet Access Consent Form signed by a parent or legal guardian. This form must be signed in person at the library or otherwise notarized. Completed forms will be kept on file at the appropriate library.

Access to the Internet is a privilege, not a right. The Library System expects each Internet user to be responsible, ethical and considerate of other library patrons. Violations of Library System Policy or Guidelines will have consequences which could include permanent forfeiture of Internet use privileges and/or Library privileges.