OCEAN SHORES PUBLIC LIBRARY

Policy: 9   Computer Services

9.0   Computer Services

The Ocean Shores Public Library (OSL) offers public access computers to patrons to search the library catalog, resources, databases, and more through the Internet. OSL offers patrons access to Microsoft Office.

9.1 Library Computers

The Internet offers access to a wealth of information that is personally, professionally, and culturally enriching. It may also offer access to information that is inaccurate, incomplete or dated. Some sources may be offensive, disturbing or illegal. Internet resources are not subject to the same selection criteria and reviews used for other material selections since most are beyond the library's control.

The Library does not monitor use of the Internet and is not responsible for its content or its use in the library.

9.2 Computer Use

Library computers may not be used for any fraudulent, deceptive, or unlawful purpose, including any activities prohibited under any applicable federal, state, or local laws, rules, or regulations.

Patrons are asked to avoid viewing material not appropriate in a public setting.

Patrons may not install computer programs on library computers.

Library computers must be used in a responsible manner, respecting the rights of others and using the equipment properly.

No person shall use a library workstation in a way that disturbs or interferes with users, employees or operations of the library .

Failure to use internet access according to these rules may result in revocation of internet use privileges, library privileges and/or criminal prosecution.

9.3 Computer Access

Software is used to reserve a workstation in advance with a library card.

Patrons with library cards that are expired or have fees over the limit, will not have access to the Internet.

9.4 Time Limits

In order to make the Internet available to as many patrons as possible, individuals are limited to one hour of access per day.

However, at the discretion of staff based on the current use patterns, another hour of time may be granted.

9.5 Internet Access to Minors

As with other library materials, parents or legal guardians are solely responsible for their minor children's use of the Internet.

A minor is defined as under the age of eighteen (18).

Minors are required to have a library card authorized by a parent/guardian to use the Internet. Visitor passes are not given to minors without parent/guardian permission.

Computers in the children's and teen areas are filtered. These filters may not be disengaged.

9.6 Staff Assistance

Library staff will assist patrons with computer and internet use as time permits. Personal assistance is available only through the Book A Technie program (Policy 8.4)

9.7 Printing

Black and white printing on 8.5 x 11 inch paper is available from all computers for a fee. The cost is $.25 (twenty five cents) per page. Payment must be in the form of cash or check.

9.8 Wireless Internet Service (Wi-Fi)

The library offers free public wireless internet access. To access the wireless connection, users should have current anti-virus protection on their computers.

Users are responsible for configuring and protecting their own equipment. Library staff can not provide technical assistance for laptops and/or wireless networks.

The library's wireless network is not secure.

OSL is not responsible for any damages arising from its use.