

The Haven Public Library Public Internet Access Policy & Guidelines

The Haven Public Library provides free access to the Internet for library patrons. Recognizing this service as a part of its mission and role as a useful reference, information, and educational tool, users of the Internet at this library must be aware of and adhere to certain guidelines.

Unlike other library resources, the Internet is an unregulated medium. As such, it offers access to a wealth of material that is personally, professionally, and culturally enriching to individuals of all ages, but it also enables access to some material that may be offensive, disturbing, and/or questionable. Many of the resources on the Internet can enhance the library's collection, but the library has no control over what information is available nor is it possible (at this time) to apply the same selection criteria to the Internet which are used for other library materials.

Access by Haven library patrons to any Internet sites/pages that are inappropriate for "all ages" public viewing is strictly prohibited.

INTERNET USERS

Haven Library users may schedule appointments or walk in on a first-come / first-served basis to use the Internet. Walk-ins may be requested to postpone immediate access due to previously scheduled appointments or staffing capabilities. Patrons who need instruction for using the Internet will be asked to schedule an appointment for a training session.

Internet users must have a current Haven Public Library card or a valid driver's license. Users shall read, accept and sign the Internet Access Policy which library staff will keep on file at the Haven Public Library.

An Internet user under the age of 18 must have a parent/guardian sign the Internet Access Policy. Library staff members are not responsible for the Internet sites selected and/or accessed by minors. Parents or guardians are advised to supervise their children's Internet sessions.

As with all patron library information, confidentiality will be protected.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The time limit on the Internet and Public Computer may be limited to 30 minutes or one-hour per user, depending on usage demands and at the discretion of the librarian on duty. If there is no one waiting to use the computer, the current user may continue until otherwise notified by a library staff member.

Patrons may use library-owned software free of charge. The software on the computers is for in-library use only and may not be copied or circulated. It may not be changed or modified in any way.

No additional software may be used or installed on the library computers by patrons. This policy protects the existing software and hardware and accommodates copyright laws. The library will attempt to monitor for viruses with virus scanning software; however, this may not completely protect patrons' disks from the chance of getting a computer virus. The Haven Public Library is not responsible for damage or loss of data to a patron's disk or computer that may occur as a result of patron's use of the library's computer.