

# **TECHNOLOGY USE POLICY**



The North Douglas Library District provides access to technology to the public. The District makes this service available as part of its mission to enrich the community by providing access to the power of information and imagination. In keeping with its value of intellectual freedom, the District provides unfiltered Internet access, provided the patron does not use the Internet for purposes which violate federal, state, or local laws. In addition, all computer and Internet use must be in accordance with this policy and with the District's Patron Code of Conduct.

## **Choosing and Evaluating Sources**

While the Internet enhances resources the District already provides, the District cannot control information available over the Internet and is not responsible for its content. Internet content could be inaccurate, incomplete, outdated, offensive, disturbing, or illegal. Users are encouraged to evaluate the validity of information. Staff may be able to assist with locating appropriate resources, basic Internet use, and use of technology, but trained staff may not always be available. User guides and reference books are available.

## **Access by Minors**

The District upholds the right of each individual to access constitutionally-protected material. The District also affirms the right and responsibility of parents and legal guardians to determine and monitor their own children's use of library resources and the Internet. Consent given on the part of the parents or legal guardians for a library card constitutes acknowledgment by the parents or guardians that they have a responsibility for monitoring their child's use of all library resources, including the public computers. To assist parents in their responsibility, the District provides specially-selected resources for children and young adults, although access by minors is not restricted to these resources.

## **Rules Governing Use**

Library technology and Internet access are provided to meet the informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs and interests of patrons. However, District prohibits the following:

- Damaging, altering, or installing equipment, systems, or software;
- Tampering with device settings

- Displaying, printing, or sending any material that is obscene, libelous, defamatory, threatening, harassing, or otherwise illegal, as defined by relevant laws;
- Deliberately downloading, installing, or creating any harmful programs.
- Violating intellectual property laws or software licensing agreements.
- Interfering with system operations, integrity or security
- Engaging in activity that is deliberately offensive or creates and intimidating or hostile environment
- Accessing another person's files or sensitive information without proper authorization
- Viewing material that could reasonably be considered pornography, as determined by District staff.
- Refusing or ignoring a staff person's valid request

In addition to violating this policy, many of the listed activities may violate local, state, or federal laws. Failure to abide by this policy or other relevant policies may result in losing technology privileges, being trespassed from the library, or criminal prosecution.

Because technology is located in public areas and the Library serves people of all ages, what is displayed on screens is not confidential and patrons should use discretion when choosing what to view. We do not routinely monitor technology use but reserve the right to do so if we suspect laws or library policies are being violated. Staff are authorized to confiscate removable media, eject users, or contact law enforcement.

Public computers have a one-hour maximum time per day, per patron, but time limits may be adjusted at library staff discretion for things such as, but not limited to, testing and test preparation, tax research and preparation, and employment or job-related applications.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about this policy, please direct them to the District Librarian.