



## **Computer Use, Internet, and Wireless (WiFi) Policy**

### **COMPUTER USE**

The Saugerties Public Library (SPL) is committed to ensuring access to information through computers and the Internet. Access to digital information is fundamental for supporting continuous lifelong learning. Recognizing its role to provide access to computers and the Internet, the SPL provides free access to any person, regardless of age or residency.

Public computer access may be unavailable or available with limited or restricted use in compliance with relevant laws, Executive Orders, and public health and safety guidelines.

All access requires a valid SPL or Mid-Hudson Library System (MHLS) library card. Patrons who do not have a library card may request a Visitor Card from any service desk. There is a limit of one Visitor Card per day. All users may have (1) one-hour session per day. Another one-hour extension may be granted, depending upon demand, at the discretion of library staff.

Using another person's library card to gain access to the library's computers may result in suspension of computer privileges.

Food and beverages are prohibited while using library computers.

All users are responsible for their behavior, and for any damages that occur due to their misuse of a public access computer. Alterations, changing settings, changing set-ups, tampering, disabling, vandalism, destructive behavior, or illegal activities may result in suspension of computer privileges and may subject the user to legal action. Parents or legal guardians are responsible for any damage done by their children and for their children's general behavior.

### **PRINTING:**

Pre-paid black & white printouts are available for \$0.15 per page, and color for \$0.25 per page.

Printouts may be picked up at the circulation or information desk.

### **INTERNET ACCESS**

In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), and in order to remain eligible for certain federal funding, it is the policy of the Saugerties Public Library to (a) prevent access

over its computer network by minors to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via the internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity by minors; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; (d) block access by minors to inappropriate information, especially visual depictions of material deemed obscene, or to any material deemed harmful to minors; and block access to child pornography.

Responsibility for a child's use of the Internet rests solely with the child's parent(s) or legal guardian.

Please be aware that display or transmission of obscenity, child pornography, or materials harmful to minors is illegal and is therefore prohibited. Such displays or transmissions may result in appropriate legal action including suspension of library privileges and/or police intervention.

As required by CIPA, filters may be disabled for adults 18 years or older who request bona fide research or any other lawful purpose. Users may speak with a staff member to request unblocking of a blocked site.

Not all information available via the Internet is accurate, current, and complete. Users are encouraged to evaluate carefully the validity and appropriateness of information accessed via the Internet. Users are cautioned that ideas, points of view and images on the Internet may be graphic and/or controversial, inflammatory or offensive.

The SPL's Internet resources may not be used to perform any illegal activity, including the deliberate propagation of computer viruses, cyber bullying, and phishing. Furthermore, the computers may not be used to seek disallowed access to any other computer system. Any verified complaints as to illegal activity may result in a shutdown of a computer station, the suspension of computer privileges, and possible referral to appropriate authorities.

Users are cautioned that security in an electronic environment such as the Internet cannot be guaranteed. All transactions, files, and communication are vulnerable to unauthorized access and use, and therefore should not be considered confidential. Internet users must respect the privacy of others by not attempting to modify or gain access to files, passwords, or data belonging to others.

All rules of copyright and personal property must be honored. Information in the form of text, graphics, music, video, software, and other media retrieved or utilized electronically should be considered protected.

**Wireless (WiFi):**

Free wireless (WiFi) access is available at the SPL for personal laptops, smart phones, and other WiFi enable devices. No passwords or other authentication is required. Library staff is unable to provide technical assistance to individual personal WiFi devices.

The Library reserves the right to take appropriate action to insure compliance with this policy.

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Approved by the Saugerties Public Library Board February 2008; Revised July 9, 2020; Revised August

12, 2021

Review History: October 2008; January 2011; April 12, 2016

Review Cycle: 3 years