

Social Software Policy

Berks County Public Libraries offers social software (as defined below) for educational, cultural, civic and recreational purposes. Library social software provide a platform to facilitate the sharing of ideas, opinions and information about library-related subjects and issues. Library social software is intended to create a welcoming and inviting online space where library users will find useful and entertaining information and can interact with library staff and other library users. Comments are moderated by library staff and the library reserves the right to remove comments that are unlawful or off topic. Violation of the Social Software Policy may result in warnings or exclusions from virtual programming.

Definition of Social software

Social software is defined as any web application, site or account offered by the Library System that facilitates the sharing of opinions and information about library related subjects and issues.

Social software includes such formats as blogs, listservs, websites, social network pages or posts to community reviews and patron ratings of library materials, as well as specific forms of social software like Facebook Live.

Rules for commenting

Protect your privacy. Do not post personally identifying information. Young people under age 18, especially, should not post information such as last name, school, age, phone number, address, etc.

Social software allowing for public comment shall inform visitors of the intended purpose of the social software and provide a clear statement of the discussion topic introduced for public comment so that the public is aware of the limited nature of the discussion and that inappropriate posts are subject to removal, including but not limited to the following types of postings regardless of format (text, video, links, documents, etc.):

- Copyright violations
- Off topic comments
- Commercial material/spam
- Duplicated posts from the same individual
- Profane language
- Content that promotes, fosters or perpetuates discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, political affiliation or disability.
- Information that may compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems
- Conduct or encouragement of illegal activity
- Content intended to defame any person, group or organization Images

Library System staff will review all posts for inappropriate content and will delete or remove such content. By choosing to comment you agree to these rules.