Internet Policy

Brandywine Community Library
Policy Updated: 1/22/26

Purpose

The Brandywine Community Library follows the Policy on Internet Access for Berks County Public Libraries. A few additions are noted.

Conditions and Terms of Use

1. All users will be required to agree to the rules and policies before using the Internet. 30 minutes counts as one session of use.
2. Viewing of sexually explicit material is not permitted in the library either on library-owned equipment or via the wireless network. Consequence of this action is that offenders will be asked to leave the library immediately. Repeat offense will result in revocation of library privileges.
3. A recovery fee of $.25 is charged for single-sided black and white printouts, $.50 for single-sided color. All printouts must be paid for, including mistakes.

Limitations

1. Games are allowed on library PCs as long as no one is waiting to do research.
2. A thirty-minute limit will be imposed when all computers are being used and someone is waiting. If there are people waiting to work on a computer, staff will first ask if anyone would volunteer to leave their computer.
3. Excessive use of network bandwidth, including wireless access, is not permitted (for example, music downloading or multi-player gaming).
4. The library reserves the right to limit the number of patrons at each computer station. This is usually limited to two patrons at a computer station at any one time.
5. Any patron with a fine of $10 or greater will be denied computer privileges. Exceptions may be made for juveniles doing homework at the staff's discretion.
6. Drinks and food are not permitted near the computers. Anyone bringing drinks or food to the computers will be asked to take them outside the library.

Filtering

The library is required to filter the Internet. An adult patron may request that the filter be removed, but the filter will not be removed in cases in violation of our Internet Policy. Filters cannot be removed from any personal device using the library's wireless connection. Library staff is not permitted to touch a patron's equipment.

Use of the Internet by Children

Librarians do not serve in the place of parents and cannot act in place of parents in providing supervision of children as they explore the Internet. The responsibility for what minor children read or view on the Internet rests with parents or guardians. Children are welcome to use the Children's computer in the children's room.

Violations

The library staff reserves the right to terminate any Internet session, including wireless Internet sessions at any time. Patrons violating this Internet Policy may lose their Internet privileges. An official warning is given for the first offense; the second offense results in the loss of Internet privileges for 30 days; and the third offense results in permanent loss of Internet privileges.

Staff Assistance

Library staff can offer basic instruction as time permits on how to navigate the Internet. However, the time available for instruction may be limited and patrons must be willing to explore and search the Internet on their own. Staff may not be able to give assistance to patrons configuring their personal equipment including laptops, tablets, gaming and other devices to connect to the library's wireless Internet. If a patron requests more than 10 minutes they will be encouraged to sign up for computer help with the volunteer or an appointment must be made with the Library Director.

Close of the Day

The computers shut down automatically ten (10) minutes before the Library closes.

The Library Director, or the library staff if the Library Director is unavailable, shall have the exclusive authority to enforce this policy. Any patron may appeal the application of the policy by the Library Director or Library Staff by notifying the Library Director and the President of the Board of Trustees in writing. The Board of Trustees shall then meet at a convenient time to decide the appeal.