Massena Public Library

Internet Use Policy

Computer and Internet Purpose
The Massena Public Library provides quality materials for use by all patrons. To increase information available to the public beyond the confines of the Library's own collection, the Library provides computer and internet access in support of its goals to meet the educational, informational, cultural and recreational needs of its patrons.

Internet Use
The internet is accessible to the public on Library computers and through the library's wireless network. Free registration at the Circulation Desk is needed to use Library computers which have wired internet access. Free Wi-Fi access is available, with no Library card or password needed, within the Library building and the grounds. Wireless signal strength depends on location and distance to a router. If the signal strength is weak, patrons may need to move to a different location. The Library does not monitor and has no control over the information accessed through the internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. The internet and its resources may contain controversial or inappropriate material but the Library does not restrict access or protect users from information that they may find offensive. Patrons use the internet at their own risk. The Library is not responsible for the availability and accuracy of information found on the internet.

Computer and Internet Usage by Minor Children
Parents and legal guardians of minor children, not the Massena Public Library, are responsible for their children's use of the internet through the library Wi-Fi. This includes what the children read or view online and offline. Massena Public Library does not use filtering software on any public computers to restrict access to material that some parents may find offensive or controversial. Parents and caregivers are therefore encouraged to supervise their children's internet use. Parents should caution their minor children about sharing personal information or interacting with strangers while on the internet and instruct them on safety measures to use.

Safety
The Massena Public Library uses software to block access to internet sites which pose a threat to the Library's computers or network. These sites include those which contain malware, malicious software and actions, phishing or spyware. The Library assumes no responsibility for damages of any type arising from patron use of the internet through the Library's network. The Library cannot assure that data or files downloaded by users are virus- free. The Library is not responsible for damages to equipment or data on a user's personal computer or device from the use of data downloaded from the Library's internet service.

Prohibited Uses
Illegal activities or any other activities intended to disrupt network services or destruction or

damage to equipment software or data belonging to the Massena Public Library or others are prohibited. Other unacceptable purposes include, but are not limited to, the following: harassment of others; libeling or slandering others; disruption or unauthorized monitoring of electronic communications, sending or receiving obscene material, tampering with computer or network settings or installing software on Library computers.

Illegal computer activities could prompt Library personnel to report the patron to the police and/or ask the patron to leave the Library. Materials copied on the computer network may be subject to copyright laws and may not be copied without permission of the copyright owner unless the proposed use falls within the definition of "fair use".

The Massena Public Library's internet computers are located in public areas used by people of all ages and backgrounds. Individuals are asked to consider this when accessing potentially controversial, graphic, inflammatory or offensive information and images. The Library reserves the right to require individuals to discontinue the display of information and images that could be deemed offensive or disturbing to other patrons or staff. These individuals may be asked to leave the computer room by Library staff. Computer users who repeatedly offend other Library patrons or staff may be barred from using the library's computers. Massena Public Library staff have the authority to determine appropriate patron conduct in accordance with all Library policies and terminate a computer session or future access.

Privacy

Users of Library computers are asked to respect the privacy of others using nearby computers. The Library assumes no liability or responsibility for what is viewed by patrons. To preserve user privacy, the Library will never share, sell or rent individual personal information except as ordered by subpoena from a valid court or legal authority. Users have a responsibility to delete any personal files stored on Library computers and log out of the computer when finished in order to remove the record of their actions. Patrons acknowledge that the Library cannot protect the privacy of data that is transmitted to third parties via the internet. Patrons are asked to use the computer volume at an acceptable level to the patrons around them, or use headphones. Patrons need to be aware that wireless networks are inherently insecure and it is strongly recommended that they secure their devices.

This Policy was amended by the Massena Public Library Board of Trustees on September 10, 2024.
This Policy was adopted by the Massena Public Library Board of Trustees on February 14, 2023.