



Internet and Network

USE OF INTERNET IN OCPL LIBRARIES

1. SERVICE OBJECTIVES

The Mission Statement of OCPL is “The Oconee County Public Library connects our diverse communities with information resources that enrich, enlighten, and entertain.”

In order to fulfill that mission, OCPL provides access to an extensive range of informational, educational, and recreational resources through its public computers and wireless Internet connection.

2. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF USERS OF OCPL PUBLIC COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET

The following Computer Acceptable Use Agreement must be accepted electronically by anyone using OCPL public computers.

Oconee County Public Library (OCPL) Computer Acceptable use Agreement

I understand and accept that:

1. in order to use OCPL computers I must present my own valid OCPL library card.
2. I will abide by the policies and rules stated below.
3. if I do not abide by the policies and rules, I may be barred from using OCPL computers and may be subject to legal action.
4. OCPL staff can help me with a specific computer/Internet problem but OCPL staff cannot spend excessive time providing me with help.
5. as a parent or legal guardian of a minor child, my child may use the OCPL computers and that I am responsible to see that my child abides by the policies and rules stated below.
 - I understand that some material on the Internet may be objectionable, but I accept the responsibility and agree to allow my child, aged 12 through 17 to use OCPL computers. I agree to allow my child under age 12 to use OCPL computers only if I or another adult accompanies them. I understand that if my child does not abide by the policies and rules he/she may be barred from using the OCPL computers.
6. information on the Internet may be current and accurate, or it may be out-of-date, unreliable, or unavailable at times. I understand that materials on the Internet may contain items that are illegal, inaccurate, defamatory, and potentially offensive and/or disturbing to some people. I understand that OCPL cannot be held liable for the content of any Internet site.

7. OCPL cannot be held liable for equipment failures.

Internet Safety Policy:

While the OCPL reaffirms the right of youths and adults to access information, in order to comply with CIPA (the Children’s Internet Protection Act) [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)], the Oconee County Public Library employs technological protective measures (commonly known as “Internet filters”) to filter incoming Internet access on both public wired terminals AND our wireless (WI-FI) network.

- To the extent practical, “filters” will be used to block access to inappropriate information. Specifically, as required by CIPA, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.
- To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the OCPL online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messages, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, as required by CIPA, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes (a) unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking,” and other unlawful activities, and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Policies:

- Users will have a daily maximum of three (3) 45 minute sessions on OCPL computers. The only exception is for users who are taking a test or filling out a job application and the institution will not allow for interruptions in the process.
- Users who do not abide by the policies and rules will be warned twice. At the third offense, they will be barred from OCPL facilities for three months.
 - First offense – verbal warning and note placed on user’s record.
 - Second offense – verbal warning and note placed on user’s record. User will also receive a written warning, according to OCPL banning procedures. If user is under age 18, their parent/guardian will be notified.
 - Third offense – user will be blocked from using OCPL computers, and will, according to the Code of Conduct and OCPL banning procedures, be barred from all library locations at the discretion of the Director for a period of three months. If user is under age 18, their parent/guardian will be notified.
- Computers in Children’s areas are to be used by children under age 12 only.
- Users may not establish email or other accounts which are stored on OCPL computers.
- Non-residents of Oconee County may be issued a daily guest pass upon presentation of a valid photo identity card.
- OCPL computer system uses filtering software as required by the South Carolina Legislature in Budget Proviso 72.95. According to the Proviso a patron may request an unfiltered library computer. The request must be made one business day in advance in order for the IT Department to disable the filtering software. (See “Internet Safety Policy” above.)

- All computers will be shut down ½ hour before closing time (15 minutes before closing time at the Salem Branch Library).
- Black and white printing is 15 cents a page and color printing is 50 cents a page.

Rules:

- The following actions will not be allowed:
 - Sending or displaying obscene or disruptive messages, files, or images
 - Using obscene language
 - Changing or adding files to the OCPL computer system
 - Harassing, insulting, or attacking others
 - Violating copyright laws, or software license agreements
 - Using personal software or downloading or installing software on OCPL computer system.
 - Bypassing or demonstrating to others how to bypass filtering software.
- No more than two users may use one computer at the same time.

3. RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF USERS OF OCPL WIRELESS INTERNET NETWORK

Use of OCPL's Wireless Network specifically, but without limitation, constitutes the users agreement to the following Policy:

OCPL WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

The Oconee County Public Library (“OCPL”) offers wireless access (Wi-Fi) for library patrons to use with their own personal notebooks, laptops, and other mobile devices. Handouts are available at the circulation desk with basic information about the service.

Wireless access is available to both library patrons and visitors. A library card is not currently required. There are no age requirements or restrictions: however, parents or guardians of children under 18 years of age should take responsibility in supervising their children's proper and safe use of the Internet.

- Wireless users are subject to existing library policies concerning computer/Internet use and public behavior where applicable. Use of OCPL's public wireless networks constitutes the user's agreement to and acceptance of all such policies, including these. The OCPL reserves the right to restrict or terminate access of any user to any OCPL network at any time for any reason, or no reason. OCPL will not be liable for any risk or liability for any such termination. Use of OCPL's Networks specifically, but without limitation, constitutes the users agreement to such policies.
- All OCPL wireless access points are accessible 24 hours a day.

- OCPL’s public wireless networks are filtered according to state and Federal regulations (See “Internet Safety Policy” above). However, users are responsible for safeguarding their own personal devices. Use of the wireless connection is done at the patron’s own risk. The Library is not responsible for ensuring your privacy or the safety of your data or hardware while connected to our wireless network.
- Access to the wireless network is on a first-come, first-served basis. During high-use periods, access may be slow or unavailable. There are a limited number of electrical outlets available within the Library branches. Patrons are encouraged to bring back-up batteries for mobile device use.
- The Library accepts no responsibility for any software downloaded and/or installed, email opened, or sites accessed while patrons are on the wireless internet connection. Patron specifically agrees to release the County of Oconee and the Oconee County Public Library from all liabilities associated with the viewing of, use of, or exposure to any information while using the wireless network, or associated with the use of the wireless network, generally.
- Library staff are available to provide general information or handouts for connecting your device to the wireless network, but **cannot** troubleshoot problems related to your wireless device or assist in setting up wireless internet on your computer. Nor can Library staff make any changes to your device’s network settings and/or hardware configuration. The Library cannot guarantee that your device will work with the Library’s wireless access points.
- Printing access is **not available** via the wireless connection. If you need to print, please save your work to a USB flash drive, or email files to yourself, then login to a wired library workstation and send jobs to the public printer (printing costs \$0.15 a page for black ink, and \$0.50 per page for color prints).
- Parents or guardians, not the Library or its staff, are solely responsible for the internet information selected and /or accessed by their children. The OCPL and its staff will not monitor nor enforce such access.
- The Library does not actively monitor your connection; however, users who are discovered, by staff or other patrons, to be viewing inappropriate content or performing illegal activities, may be asked to cease using the wireless network or leave the building, and may be reported to the proper authorities.