

ARTESIA PUBLIC LIBRARY AND CITY OF ARTESIA INTERNET ACCESS POLICY

INTRODUCTION

It is the intent of the City of Artesia and the Artesia Public Library to provide free and equitable public access to internet resources.

The City of Artesia and the Artesia Public Library have no control over the information available through the internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. Not all sources on the internet provide accurate, complete, or current information; some sources may be offensive, disturbing, and/or illegal. City of Artesia guests and library patrons need to question the validity of what they find and they use it at their own risk.

Users should be aware that the internet is not a secure medium and that third parties may be able to obtain information. Any illegal use of the internet, wireless network, hotspots, library and other city-owned computers by any person is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to infringement of copyright laws, hacking, accessing illegal materials, and committing fraud. (30-37-3.2 NMSA 1978)

The City and Library staff will assist you in accessing the internet, to offer searching suggestions, and answer questions to the best of our ability. However, we cannot provide in-depth training concerning internet computer jargon or computer use. It is city policy that we cannot troubleshoot personally owned devices.

RULES GOVERNING USE

To allow all users an opportunity to use the equipment, signup and time limitations may be utilized. All users are asked to respect the privacy of other users and not attempt to censor or comment upon what others are viewing. Departmental rules of conduct, policies, as well as pertinent state, federal, and local laws apply to all users. Examples of pertinent conduct rules in Artesia Public Library include: any action that is potentially harmful to others, violates another's privacy, constitutes online bullying, results in intentional damage, or is harassment of any kind. The City does not condone the use of City equipment to access material that is obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors. The City provides commercial filtering software for in-house public use computers and wireless internet towards that purpose.

Public computers and wireless network may not be used for any illegal activity including, but not limited to:

- Damaging or altering computer equipment, systems, or software

- Displaying, printing, or sending any material that is illegal, libelous, threatening, or harassing
- Downloading or installing any harmful program defined as, but not limited to, spyware, viruses, Trojans, malware, or any other illegal utility on any computer
- Violating copyright or trademark laws, software licensing agreements, or intellectual property rights

Users engaging in these activities may lose computer, hotspot, or Wi-Fi privileges and/or be asked to leave the Library or other City facilities and law enforcement authorities may be summoned.

ACCESS BY CHILDREN

The City and Library affirms the right and responsibility of parents and legal guardians to determine and monitor their own children's use of City and Library materials and resources including wireless internet access. To assist parents in their responsibility for their children's use of the Internet, the City:

- Provides specially designed web pages for children and young adults, with links to age appropriate internet sites and to filtered search engines on City-owned computers on City property.
- Provides computers with commercial filtering software for public use in the Children's and Teen areas. This filtering software will block many specific sites that may be offensive to some but may not block all materials that may be offensive to all users. Parents should inform their children of materials they do not want them to use and may wish to supervise their children's internet sessions.
- Public internet access on City owned equipment within the Children's and Teen areas is filtered in compliance with the Federal Child Internet Protection Act.
- Public computers in the library are segregated by age groups. Children 12 years old and younger are restricted to computers in the Children's area. Teens ages 13 to 17 are restricted to the Teen area. Adults not accompanied by a child or teen are not allowed to use computers in the Children's or Teen areas.

PUBLIC WIRELESS ACCESS

The City provides wireless access and wireless hotspot check-out from the library as a service for patrons and guests who wish to use their own devices. Wireless internet content is filtered at an adult level on the City's wireless network and may not comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act. There is no filtering on the wireless hotspots that can be checked out from the library. As such, parents or legal guardians retain the right and responsibility to determine

whether use of the public wireless network or hotspot is appropriate or not for their child. If you have concerns about your child's use these, you are encouraged to have them use one of the computers in the Children's or Teen areas.

Furthermore:

- The City and Library staff does not assist users in obtaining a wireless connection.
- City and Library staff cannot perform repairs or troubleshoot your equipment.
- Signal strength may vary throughout the City facilities. Please move to a different location if you are having trouble securing a connection or staying online.
- Wireless connections are not secure; use caution when transmitting personal information.
- The City cannot guarantee your equipment will work with the City's network.
- Do not leave your equipment unattended. The City is not responsible for equipment that is lost or stolen.
- The City of Artesia and the Artesia Public Library assume no responsibility for the use of the wireless network by anyone, regardless of age.

POLICY ACCEPTANCE

Logging onto a public computer, into the City's wireless network, or use of the Wi-Fi hotspots constitutes acceptance of this policy.