

The Stickney-Forest View Public Library District is pleased to provide information through the Internet and other electronic resources. We make this service available as a part of our mission to “bring people and information together.”

The Internet offers access to many valuable sources of information, but not all sites are accurate, complete, or current. The Library does not monitor, has no control over, the information accessed through the Internet. There are many sites that carry information which one may find controversial or improper. Users may not hold the Library responsible for information acquired on the Internet. Users are encouraged to take advantage of the Internet and to exercise good judgment and discretion. Parents should supervise their children’s Internet sessions. Patrons will abide by the Library’s current behavior policy (Section 4).

As indicated on the application for all Library cards, parents or guardians assume all responsibility for the minor’s selection of materials.

- ❖ Children 10 – 17 years of age require a signed parental authorization to access electronic resources.
- ❖ Children 9 years of age and under may access any electronic resources and require direct parental/guardian supervision while utilizing the Internet/computer.

Access to the Internet and other electronic resources made available to all possessing a valid Metropolitan Library System Library card on a first come, first serve basis and will be made available until one-half hour before Library closing. Sessions will be limited to one hour if other patrons are awaiting access to the terminals.

Access to the Internet and other electronic resources are available at no additional cost. However, all patrons will be charged for print-outs and for the cost of repairing or replacing any equipment or software damaged by the card holder.

Only the card holder is allowed to use his/her name and/or Library card to access the Internet and other electronic resources through the Stickney-Forest View Public Library District. Proper identification will be required.

The Stickney-Forest View Public Library District reserves the right to alter or modify this policy and any Library Policy at any time.

Unacceptable uses of the library's telecommunications technologies include:

- Violating any federal, state, or local law or ordinance that in any way involves contact with or use of the Library's telecommunications technologies;
- Transmitting or receiving obscenity to or from any email account, website, newsgroup, mailing list, or similar forum;
- Accessing, viewing, downloading, storing or printing files, graphics or messages (including still or moving pictures) or sound files which are obscene or constitute "Objectionable Material" as defined in this policy and/or Section 11-21 of the Illinois Criminal Code or transmitting such materials to any forum or recipient where the said materials are accessible by others;
- Harassment by computer, which includes transmitting any material which is threatening to another person, with the intent to coerce, intimidate, or harass any person or threaten any illegal or immoral act, whether or not such material is transmitted to that third person;
- Copying proprietary information, including software, in violation of applicable law, including in violation of any applicable copyright, trademark or other intellectual property right.
- Knowingly or negligently transmitting computer viruses onto the library's computer system, or to any other person's or entity's computer system;
- Deliberately trying to degrade or disrupt system performance, commonly known as a denial of service attack (such acts may also be viewed as criminal activity under applicable state or federal law);
- Hacking into any computer system.

Penalty:

In addition to other sanctions described elsewhere in this Policy, patrons who make illegal or unacceptable uses of the Library's telecommunications technologies may be banned from using the Library's computers, networks, and Internet resources.

Illegal acts involving Library computer stations and Internet use may also be subject to prosecution by local, state, or federal authorities. Indication or evidence of possible illegal activity may be reported to law enforcement authorities, and such communication may also be used as evidence in any criminal investigations and/or prosecutions.

The Library will never share, sell or rent individual personal information it gathers in the course of business, except: 1) for the purpose of recovering overdue items and fines; 2) as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction; 3) pursuant to law enforcement directive as required by the Illinois Library Records Confidentiality Act (75 ILCS 70/1); or 4) as ordered by subpoena under the USA PATRIOT Act (P.L. 107-56).

What is wireless Internet access? WiFi?

Wireless Internet access uses radio frequency signals to exchange information between your computer and the Internet. No cables are required. Wireless allows library patrons to bring their own laptop computers to the library and to obtain high speed Internet access.

Library's Wireless Network User Agreement

The Stickney-Forest View Public Library District provides free unfiltered wireless (WiFi) access for patrons to use their personal laptop computers or other WiFi-enabled portable computing devices to connect to the Internet. By choosing to use the Library's WiFi service, the user agrees to abide by the **Library's Wireless Network User Agreement**; all relevant Library rules, regulations and policies apply, including but not limited to, the Internet Access Policy.

Policy:

- The Library has no control over the information on the Internet and is not responsible for its content. Parents need to be aware that wireless access is free and unrestricted. As with all materials in the Library, restriction of a child's access to the Internet is the responsibility of the parent or guardian; the Library does not act in place of the parent. Parents and guardians assume full and complete responsibility for their child/children's use of the Internet through the Library's connection.
- All users of the Library may have access to electronic information, services, and networks provided directly or indirectly by the Library, in accordance with the Library's licensing or contractual agreements regarding data and services.
- Wireless users are expected to adhere to the Library's Internet Policy and violations of our policy will result in the loss of library and computer privileges. The Library provides wireless internet access via an open, unsecured wireless network. It is strongly recommended that you do not use such a network to transmit personal, financial or legal data. It is not possible for the Library to protect you against malicious theft or interception of such data transmitted over our network.
- You need to know how to configure your computer for WiFi network access. Librarians are only able to provide brief help on basic computer use. Staff cannot provide assistance to users in configuring their equipment. Please contact your wireless equipment manufacturer for setup details
- The Library provides wireless connectivity in this facility as a public service and offers no guarantees or representations that any use of the wireless connection is in any way secure, or that any privacy can be protected when using this wireless connection. Use of this wireless connection is entirely at the risk of the user, and the Library is not responsible for any loss of information that may arise from the use of the wireless connection, nor is the Library responsible for any loss, injury, or damage resulting from the use of the wireless connection.
- The Library also assumes no responsibility for damage, theft, or loss of any kind to the user's equipment, software, data files or other personal property brought into or used at the Library's facilities.

The Library provides free wireless Internet access for use with personal laptop PCs:

- Laptops need to have built-in WiFi or 802.11 b/g capabilities or an installed wireless adaptor card.
- Patrons are not allowed to plug into library outlets or in-use surge protectors.
- Access to the wireless network is on a first-come first-served basis. During high-use periods, access may be slow or unavailable.
- No logins or passwords are required.
- Security – Public wireless networks are not secure. Users are responsible for safeguarding their laptops.
- Printing – No printing is available from the wireless network. Please use one of the public PCs to print.
- Filtering—All wireless access in the library is unfiltered.

Getting Started:

1. Bring your laptop or PDA with an IEEE 802.11b-compliant wireless networking card to the library.
2. Select the library's wireless network. The wireless card should detect the signal immediately (some wireless card software may require additional procedures and/or setting changes).
3. Open your Internet browser. Read the library's Wireless Access Policy.
4. Start surfing.