



## Computer and Internet Policy

Crafton Public Library (CPL) provides 10 desktop computers, 2 laptops, and wireless Internet service (Wi-Fi) for use by members of the public.

**Public computers are available on a first-come, first-served basis, regardless of reasons for use.** A 30-minute time limit may be enforced if necessary. If all computers are in use, an individual may put in a reservation at the circulation desk for the next available computer.

Wireless Internet service (Wi-Fi) is available inside the Library during the Library's operating hours for people with compatible wireless devices. Patrons must accept the terms of use to access the wifi. Device owners are responsible for configuring equipment for wireless service. General information on configuring devices for wireless service is available from Library staff during the Library's operating hours. **Staff are not permitted to configure wireless devices for service.**

### USER RESPONSIBILITIES

Crafton Public Library expressly prohibits any use of Library computers or its wireless services to conduct fraudulent or illegal activities or to access material that is obscene, contains or makes reference to explicit sexual materials as defined by PA law (18 PA. C.S. § 5903), contains child pornography or is harmful to minors. Patrons should not access sites that are inappropriate for viewing within a public setting. Patrons are responsible for complying with copyright laws and licensing agreements, for paying any fee-based service charges and for securing wireless devices from physical or digital theft.

### INTERNET FILTERING

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) is a federal law that requires all computers in a public library to be filtered if that library accepts any federal funds for Internet access or computers used for Internet access (U.S. Supreme Court decision: *United States v. American Library Association, Inc.*, 539 U.S. 194 (2003)). The Electronic Information Network (eiNetwork), the countywide consortium which provides Crafton Public Library's Internet access, receives such funding, and, therefore, as a member, CPL complies with the requirements of CIPA.

Web sites are filtered to prevent minors from viewing material that 1) is obscene, 2) contains child pornography or 3) is harmful to minors. The term "harmful to minors" is defined by the Communications Act of 1934 (47 USC § 254 (h)(7)(G)), as meaning any picture, image, graphic image file or other visual depiction that:

- Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex or excretion;
- Depicts, describes or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts or a lewd exhibition of the genitals;
- Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value as to minors.

As necessary for bona fide research or other lawful purposes, any adult (18-years or older, as defined by CIPA) may have filtering disabled on Library computers by a Library staff member. In the event that the filter wrongly blocks or filters access to a site with legitimate informational value, a minor (17-years or younger, as defined by CIPA) may have the filter disabled on Library computers by a Library staff member.

Filters are not foolproof. They can give people a false sense of security that they are protected from harmful material. In addition, filters can block access to sites that could be inoffensive or useful.

**The Library requires that parents or guardians, just as with books, videos, and other formats, assume responsibility for monitoring their children’s use of and access to information. A parent or legal guardian providing photo identification for a child’s Library card indicates and pledges that parents or guardians take, and will continue to take, responsibility for monitoring that child’s access to all Library materials and services, including the Internet.**

Not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, age-appropriate, complete, or current information. CPL cannot and does not make any promise, commitment, or guarantee, either expressed or implied, with respect to the quality or content of the information available.

Internet users, especially children and their parents, need to be good information consumers, questioning, evaluating, and judging the validity of the information. Users are cautioned that articles, ideas, points of view, and images can be found on the Internet that may be controversial, troubling, disturbing, upsetting, divergent, false, misleading, and/or inflammatory.

#### DISCLAIMERS

Crafton Public Library has no liability for direct, indirect or consequential loss or damages related to the use of information or services accessed through the Library’s computer equipment or Wi-Fi service.

Crafton Public Library, having installed and enforced the operation of filtering software in compliance with the Children’s Internet Protection Act, has no liability for damages related to the operation of, or failure of, the filtering technology or for its possible circumvention by users. Only parents and guardians can guide their children’s use of the Library and its resources.

## PENALTIES FOR MISUSE

Any misuse of computer equipment, attempts to harm data or networks, inappropriate sharing of account information or passwords, attempts to circumvent procedure, attempts to bypass Internet filter, or other irresponsible usage will result in the immediate suspension of user privileges and, where applicable, criminal prosecution. The user or parent/guardian of children age 17 and younger will be responsible for any misuse and/or monetary damages resulting from such acts.

Further, the ability to post (including storage) or link to copyrighted material is governed by United States copyright law. Crafton Public Library reserves the right to delete or disable access to any post or link if, in its judgment, the post or link involves violation of copyright law. Repeat infringers of copyright law may lose computer or Library privileges.

You may refer all questions and concerns to [craftonlibrary@craftonlibrary.org](mailto:craftonlibrary@craftonlibrary.org) or you may call the Library at 412-922-6877.

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