

**Kennebunk Free Library  
Acceptable Use Policy  
For Internet and Computer Use**

**Introduction**

The Kennebunk Free Library (KFL) strives to provide free and equal access to information to all patrons by adhering to the Library Bill of Rights, the Freedom to Read Statement, and the Freedom to View Statement as adopted and supported by the American Library Association.

All electronic resources users should be aware that the inappropriate use of electronic information can violate Local, State and Federal laws and can lead to prosecution by those jurisdictions. Unacceptable use of the Library's computers and Internet access resources will result in revocation of use privileges and the user will be held responsible for his or her inappropriate use. The Library Director shall have final authority to decide whether a patron's privileges will be denied.

**Services Provided:**

Public access computers are available to all patrons for cultural, educational, informational, and recreational purposes in accordance with the Library's mission.

The Internet is an unregulated medium, unlike other Library sources that are chosen, organized, and catalogued. The information available on the Internet can be enriching and educational; however, some of it may be offensive to some people. The Library makes no guarantee, neither expressed nor implied, with respect to the quality or content of the information available on the Internet. As required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors. Please refer to the KFL Internet Safety Policy for more information.

**Responsibilities:**

- All Internet resources available through the Library are provided equally to all users. Therefore, parents and guardians must assume responsibility for their minor children's use of the Internet through the Library's connection. Online safety links are available through our website.
- The Library's publicly available computers are configured to restrict altering the settings. Patrons may not alter any of the configurations of the computers in any way. Downloading, installing and altering software other than what is already installed is prohibited and will be considered an unauthorized use. Exceptions for educational purposes may be made at the director's discretion.
- The patron and/or patron's parent/guardian shall be responsible for compensating the Kennebunk Free Library for any losses, costs, or damages incurred. KFL assumes no responsibility for unauthorized charges, costs, or illegal use of the Library's or patron's electronic equipment.
- Library computers are located in the public areas of the Library. In using Library computers, including email and stored files, patrons should have no expectations of privacy. Patrons are asked to be mindful of their neighbors while using Library internet resources.
- Patrons may access personal website-based email accounts (Gmail, Yahoo, etc.) but may not configure email client software (MS Outlook, etc.) for their own personal use. The Library does not filter or restrict email content in any way. Parents/guardians of minors are urged to supervise the minor's use of such email accounts.
- Patrons will not use the Library's computers or wireless Internet connections for unauthorized, unethical or illegal purposes including but not limited to:
  - Creating or distributing a computer virus;

- Using the computers to gain unauthorized access to other computer systems (e.g. hacking);
- Using impolite or abusive language; and/or
- Accessing material that is obscene, pornographic or deemed harmful to minors, as defined by law.

In accordance the Maine State statute regarding confidentiality of patron information (27 M.R.S.A. § Section 121) and the Kennebunk Free Library Patron Privacy policy, the Library will not disclose any information, including the use of electronic resources, about any of its patrons, adult or minor, except by the express written permission of the patron involved or as otherwise ordered or directed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

#### **Procedures:**

- Before using KFL computers, patrons must sign-in (first name only) at the Circulation desks. This information is shredded at the end of every day, the library retaining only the total number of users.
- Computers are available on a first-come first-served basis. Each user is permitted one hour of computer time per day. The allotted time may be extended at staff discretion. Bathroom or other breaks from the computer do not extend allotted time. Users who have reached the one-hour limit may be asked to surrender their computers during times of high demand. Computers in the Children's Room are only for use by children age 13 and under or adults accompanying children of that age. Youth age 14 and older and adults must use the terminals on the Library's main floor. Computers may be reserved for one hour blocks of time up to 24 hours in advance. Staff cannot guarantee the availability of a specific computer. No reservation is guaranteed after 10 minutes. A patron who shows up late will not receive additional time.
- Patrons may not permanently download programs or files to the computer hard drives. Files may be downloaded to facilitate printing.
- Personal headphones may be used at the computers at a volume that does not disturb other patrons. Headphones are available to borrow at the circulation desks.
- Library Staff can provide in-depth technical support by appointment only. Appointments are available at staff discretion in 45-minute intervals, with no more than one appointment available per patron, per week.
- Black and white printing is available at \$.25 per sheet.

#### **A Note About Wireless**

Wireless access is provided as a service to KFL patrons for personal devices.

- Access points are unsecured.
- Library staff are not responsible for troubleshooting problems related to a specific device nor can the Library guarantee that a device will work with the Library's network.
- KFL is not liable for the consequences of wireless network use in any way.

Wireless users should not leave their devices unattended. The Library is not responsible in case of damage to or theft of personal devices.