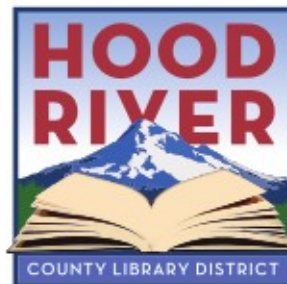


Technology Use Policy



Hood River County Library District provides technology to the public. The District makes this service available as part of its mission to reach out, supporting everyone to learn, create, and grow. In keeping with its value of intellectual freedom, the District provides unfiltered Internet access on most of its networks, with the exception of the Cascade Locks Library which is located within an elementary school.

Choosing and Evaluating Sources

While the Internet enhances resources the District already provides, the District cannot control information available over the Internet and is not responsible for its content. Internet content could be inaccurate, incomplete, outdated, offensive, disturbing, or illegal.

To assist patrons, staff curate electronic resources on selected topics. District staff review resources regularly but, due to the ever-changing nature of the Internet, cannot guarantee that they remain valid. Similarly, the District cannot be responsible for content changes in the resources it suggests. Users are encouraged to evaluate the validity of information. Staff may be able to assist with locating appropriate resources, basic Internet use, and use of technology, but trained staff may not always be available. User guides and reference books are available.

Access by Minors

The District upholds the right of each individual to access constitutionally-protected material. The District also affirms the right and responsibility of parents and legal guardians to determine and monitor their own children's use of library resources and the Internet. Accordingly, parents and guardians are solely responsible for supervision of their children's use of the internet. To assist parents in their responsibility the District provides specially-selected resources for children and young adults, although access by minors is not restricted to these resources.

Rules Governing Use

Library technology and Internet access are provided to meet the informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs and interests of patrons. However, District prohibits the following:

- Damaging, altering, or installing equipment, systems, or software;
- Displaying, printing, or sending any material that is obscene, libelous, defamatory, threatening, harassing, or otherwise illegal, as defined by relevant laws;
- Downloading, installing, or creating any harmful programs.
- Violating intellectual property laws or software licensing agreements.
- Viewing material that could reasonably be considered pornography, as determined by District staff.
- Exposing children to obscene materials.

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The Library is not responsible for any information a patron accesses using a WIFI hotspot or any actions they take while online. Using the hotspot to access any online content determined to be illegal or obscene according to federal, state or municipal law will result in the revocation of hotspot borrowing privileges and potentially criminal prosecution.

Library staff cannot assist with connections or configurations of patron's computers.

In addition to violating this policy, many of the listed activities may violate local, state, or federal laws.

In order to provide equitable access to technology, patrons may be asked to comply with signup and time limitations and other restrictions as deemed necessary by staff.

Because technology is located in public areas and the District serves people of all ages, what is displayed on screens is not confidential, and patrons should use discretion when choosing what to view. It is the responsibility of the library patron to clear the content of their session and verify personal information has been deleted at the end of their session. There is no guarantee that data will be cleared after each use.

Refusal to comply with these rules may result in loss of technology privileges, ejection from District property, or summoning of law enforcement, as determined by the Code of Conduct.

Approved by the Board of Directors: July 19, 2011

Last amended: 5/20/25, 7/8/24, 10/15/19