

ARTICLE 6: INTERNET USE POLICY

6.01: GENERAL PROVISIONS

The Leon Valley Public Library provides access to the Internet as one means of fulfilling its mission of “providing quality public library services for all residents and businesses of Leon Valley, enriching the entire community.” Internet resources accessible through the library are provided equally to all users, with the understanding that it is the individual user’s responsibility to demonstrate judgment, respect for others, and appropriate conduct while using the library’s resources and facilities. The Library cannot police a global network and each individual user must take responsibility for his or her own activities on the Internet and for the activities of his or her children.

The Leon Valley Public Library seeks to protect the First Amendment rights of its customers and their individual right to privacy. However, internet users must be sensitive to the fact that workstations are in a public area, and therefore images on the screen are subject to view by a wide audience. The internet will not be accessed by anyone, including minors, for illegal activity, to access illegal materials, or to access materials that by community standards would be objectionable. Library staff will take prompt and appropriate action to enforce the Internet Use Policy and/or to prohibit use by individuals who fail to comply with the policy. Access, use, or dissemination of information via the internet is the responsibility of the user. In case of minors, it is a joint responsibility of the user, and the parent or guardian.

Parents of children must be present and assume responsibility for their children's use of the library's internet service as we do NOT filter content. If you would like to allow your child to use the internet without your presence (ages 14 through 17) you must sign the Minor Internet Acceptance Form ([Attachment 24](#)) allowing them to do so.

Printing is available, see Library Fee Schedule for pricing ([Attachment 3](#)).

The Library Director, with the advisement of the Leon Valley Public Library Board of Trustees, will present the challenge and recommendation to City Council for a final decision on the challenged material(s).

6.02 RESPONSIBILITY AND USE

It is the responsibility of each user to be guided by the following principles:

- Respect for the privacy and sensibilities of other users.
- Attention to the legal protection provided by copyright and license to programs and data.
- Consideration for the integrity of computing systems. For example, users must not intentionally develop programs to harass other users or to infiltrate a computer or computing system or develop programs that may damage or alter the software components of this or other computing systems.

Further examples of unacceptable use include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Damaging or destroying equipment, software, or data belonging to the Library or to other users, including adding, altering, or deleting files on Library workstation hard drives or other Library computer equipment.
- Unauthorized copying of copyrighted material.
- Violating software license agreements.
- Violating computer system or network integrity, including attempts to bypass network security functions, obtain passwords, or alter the configuration of Library workstations in any way.
- Harassing others.
- Using the Internet for any illegal activity.
- Gambling on the Internet.
- Wasting finite resources (including printing without paying).

Public computers are equipped with security software that wipes each computer clean, setting it back to our “base point” after each log out. This ensures that patron information is not stored on computers. Library staff will not disable this software for any reason, for the security of all involved.

While Library staff is happy to assist users in accessing the Internet, each user is nevertheless responsible for his or her own search. Staff cannot provide in-depth personal training in the use of the Internet or of personal computers.

The Library will provide primary access to the Internet through the World Wide Web via the graphical browsers.

Users will not be able to dial into the Library's Internet computers from remote sites.

Leon Valley Public Library provides wireless access to the internet to allow patrons to use their personal wireless-ready laptops and devices. Library staff is available to help with minimal instruction; however, staff cannot install programs, troubleshoot or make any changes to devices that are not library-owned.

Patrons should be aware that it is a criminal offense to display harmful materials in public according to Texas Penal Code § 43.22 ([Attachment 15](#)) and Texas Penal Code § 43.24 ([Attachment 16](#))