

## Public Access Computing Policy

This policy adheres to the principles outlined in the American Library Association's policy statement [Access to Digital Information, Services, and Networks](#). The Belmont Public Library provides access to a variety of electronic resources in accordance with its mission to enhance residents' learning, information, and personal enrichment and to expand individual access to information through technology.

The library has no control over information accessed on the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. The library makes no representation that any part of the Internet service will be uninterrupted, error-free, virus-free, timely, or secure. The library computers are not filtered, in accordance with the American Librarian Association's ["Resolution on the use of filtering software in libraries", 1997](#). It is illegal to use the library's computing resources to access, view, distribute, display, send or receive material which violates local, state, or federal law. Patrons handling financial transactions or other activities requiring confidentiality do so at their own risk. Materials obtained or copied from the Internet may be subject to copyright law. Responsibility for copyright infringement lies with the patron.

The library does not maintain a history of patron computer use, and follows best practices to secure its network and computers. Privacy in a public place cannot be guaranteed, and patrons are urged to respect the sensibilities of others when using library resources. Library staff will take appropriate action to resolve problems which arise in the use of the library's computing resources to enforce library policies and rules. To this end, library staff may need to observe resource use and question or restrict conduct which violates library policy. Staff may also restrict time on library computers due to demand or other factors affecting use.

The library computers are set up for individual use. Small groups may use the computers providing that this activity does not obstruct or distract other patrons.

The library's wireless network is free for public use. The library does not provide tech support for personal wireless devices, though library staff may provide guidance for use within the library setting. Security for personal wireless devices rests with the owner. Personal use of the library's wireless network will conform to policies regulating other types of public Internet access provided by the library.

Parents and guardians of minor children are responsible for supervising their children's safety and activities while using library resources.

Patrons in good standing who are over the age of sixteen may check out library laptops, Chromebooks, tablets or other devices for use in the library. An item of value may be required for the transaction.

Any damage to library technology may be charged to the patron. Failure to use the equipment appropriately and responsibly may result in suspension or restriction of computer use privileges. Consequences for misuse of library technology may include police notification and/or involvement at the discretion of library staff.

Printing and scanning capabilities are available for a fee.

Library staff are available to assist patrons with technical questions as demand on staff time allows. Individual appointments may be made for time-consuming or complex questions.

Adopted July 21, 2015