

BERTHA BARTLETT PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Story City, Iowa

**INTERNET USE PURPOSE AND GUIDELINES**

This policy applies to all users of the Bertha Bartlett Public Library computers and networks.

**Purpose**

A goal of the library is to provide equal access to information, materials, and services within the environment that welcomes interaction and personal enrichment for educational and informational purposes for all the people of our community.

The Internet offers access to many valuable local, national, and international sources of information. Be advised, however, that the Internet also contains information which may be inaccurate, outdated, or personally offensive.

The library does not control any of the resources available on the Internet. Although library staff will make every effort to provide access to reliable resources on the Internet, it is not possible to apply the same selection criteria which are used for other resources. The library cannot guarantee confidentiality on the Internet.

**Responsibilities of Users**

**\* Choosing and evaluating sources**

The Internet is a global entity with a highly diverse user population and information content. Library patrons use it at their own risk. A good information consumer evaluates the validity of information found. Your use of Internet resources carries with it the responsibility to evaluate the quality of the information accessed. If you feel information obtained through this service is inaccurate or offensive, we suggest you contact the original producer or distributor of that information. The availability of information does not constitute endorsement of the content by the Story City Bertha Bartlett Public Library.

**\*Supervising children's use**

It is the library's policy that parents or legal guardians must assume responsibility for deciding what library resources are appropriate for their children. There may be some resources which parents feel are inappropriate for their children. Concerned parents should let their children know if there are materials they do not wish them to use and are encouraged to monitor their children's Internet use.

**\* Using the Internet**

Patrons who wish to use the library's Internet access computer must conform to these guidelines:

1. Patrons are required to sign in at the desk before using the computer, and sign out when finished.
2. You may sign up for a 60 minute session. Reservations may be made by phone or in person.
3. Patrons who reserved the computer must arrive no later than 15 minutes past their scheduled time or the reservation will be cancelled and the time made available to another patron.
4. If the computer is not scheduled, it may be used on a first come, first served basis.
5. Patrons may bring their own devices for downloading. Patrons downloading material should be aware that the same copyright restrictions apply to on-line materials as print materials. The library is not responsible for copyright infringement by patrons.
6. Patrons using the Internet access computer should be knowledgeable in basic computer operation. Only minimal instruction as time permits, can be offered by the library staff.
7. Patrons assume all risk/liability when divulging a credit card number or other personal information on the Internet; the library is not responsible for charges, damages, or injuries resulting from such use.
8. Inappropriate use of a computer can be a felony. Patrons may not use the library computers for illegal or criminal purposes, including:
  - a. Violation of Iowa state law, which makes it illegal to download or purvey child pornography, purvey pornography to children or to commit fraudulent acts using the Internet.
  - b. Violation of U. S. copyright law (Title 17, U. S. Code) which prohibits the unauthorized reproduction of copyright materials, except as permitted by the principles of "fair use".
  - c. Make any attempt to alter or damage computer hardware or software.

**DISCLAIMER: *The Bertha Bartlett Public Library expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility arising from access to or use of information obtained through its electronic information systems, or any consequences thereof.***

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