

III. COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE POLICY

South Burlington Public Library supports the American Library Association's *Library Bill of Rights* as it applies to *Access to Digital Resources and Services*.

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/librarybill>

The South Burlington Public Library is committed to the privacy of its patrons. Data and browser history is never saved between users. The Library never keeps personal data regarding search histories in the online library resources.

However, while in use, computers store temporary and permanent data, and anything on a screen may be visible to patrons passing behind. Screen privacy is not assured. Privacy screens are available on request.

The Library is not responsible for the content of information on the Internet.

Illegal activities on the computer include:

- Violation of applicable state and federal laws governing information access,
- Infringement of US copyright laws and licensing agreements,
- Violation of state and federal laws on the sexual exploitation of children.

Violation of state and federal laws will result in suspension or termination of user's computer privileges. Patrons may be subject to prosecution by local, state, or federal authorities.

A. Computers Available for Public Use

Portable devices are available for public use in the Library. To access these devices, patrons must have a Library or PC card in good standing. Patrons must follow guidelines on the posted South Burlington Public Library Laptop Release Form. Portable devices are offered on a first come, first serve basis. They are only for use inside the Library and may be used up to three hours per day. *(During a health emergency or similar situation out of the Library's control, the Library Director may change those time limits.)*

Desktop computers may be used up to 3 hours, depending upon patrons who might be waiting. At login, the first session is 90 minutes, followed by up to three additional 30-minute sessions as time permits. *(During a health emergency or similar situation out of the Library's control, the Library Director may change those time limits.)*

E-readers may be available to make certain resources available to the public.

Desktops that access the Internet and desktops loaded with educational games are in the Children's area for public use.

Computer use must end 15 minutes before the close of the Library. All portable devices must be returned to the circulation desk at that time.

Any patron who willfully causes damage to Library computers is responsible for costs incurred.

B. Children and Computers

The Library supports the right of all persons, regardless of age, to have equal access to the Internet, as well as with all other materials and services in the Library.

The Library supports the right and responsibility of parents/guardians to monitor their children's use of the Internet. Parents are encouraged to accompany their children and guide their Internet exploration. The Library does not assume responsibility for monitoring Internet content accessed by children.

Users accessing mature material online may be asked to use the computers on the second floor.