

**USE OF THE INTERNET OR WI-FI ACCESS
AT THE HERBERT WESCOAT MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

POLICY ACCEPTANCE FOR MINOR CHILDREN (UNDER THE AGE OF 18)

I give permission to my child (PLEASE PRINT) _____ ,
age _____ , to access the Ohio Public Library Information Network (OPLIN)
Internet at the Herbert Wescoat Memorial Library. My child and I have read and
understand the library's OPLIN/Internet Use Guidelines and Disclaimers and accept
the statement that strongly advises me to supervise and guide my child's use of the
OPLIN and the Internet. The Herbert Wescoat Memorial Library does not guarantee
and will not be responsible for information obtained from the Internet and any and
all effects of its use.

Child's Name (PRINT)	Signature	Date
Parent/Guardian Name (PRINT)	Signature	Date
Address	City/State/Zip Code	Phone

POLICY ACCEPTANCE FOR ADULTS (AGES 18 AND OVER)

My signature below indicates that I have read and accept the Herbert Wescoat
Memorial Library's OPLIN/Internet Use Guidelines.

Name (PRINT)	Signature	Date
Address	City/State/Zip Code	Phone

**USE OF THE INTERNET OR WI-FI ACCESS
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GUIDELINES**

Part of the Herbert Wescoat Memorial Library's mission statement is *"to feature current, high-demand, high-interest materials in a variety of formats; to include electronic access for persons of all ages; and to encourage lifelong learning."* In an effort to accomplish these goals, the library provides the residents of Vinton County access to the Internet and electronic databases through the Ohio Public Library Information Network (OPLIN).

PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF MINOR CHILDREN ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO GUIDE AND SUPERVISE THEIR CHILDREN'S USE OF THE INTERNET.

- Certain sites on the Internet are sexually explicit (in text and pictures) and graphic in nature. THESE SITES ARE NOT WITHIN THE LIBRARY'S SERVICE GOALS. The OPLIN/Internet computers are within the public area of the library. Therefore, intentionally exposing other patrons, especially children, to these sites is expressly prohibited and will result in the immediate loss of access privilege.
- **The Library uses filtering software to block access to some Internet sites. Since no filtering system is completely effective or efficient, further restriction of a minor's access to the Internet is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian.** Parents/Guardians of minor children are strongly advised to guide and supervise their child's use of the Internet.
- First time users of the OPLIN/Internet computers are asked to read these guidelines and sign a form indicating they have done so before they are permitted to use the library's OPLIN/Internet access.
- Patrons under the age of 18 must have Parent/Legal Guardian sign this Internet consent form before they will be able to obtain OPLIN/Internet privileges. Parents and/or guardians of children under 18, not library staff, are responsible for their children's use of the OPLIN/Internet, including any information selected and/or accessed by them. To assist patrons in their Internet use, the library offers the following web site: www.safekids.com/child_safety.htm.
- The OPLIN/Internet computers are limited to 30-minute sessions. Patrons must sign the "Internet Sign-Up Sheet" at the circulation desks and observe their scheduled times. As with other equipment in the library, the staff reserves the right to "block-out" or "reserve" certain times in order to provide library orientations, tours, etc. to staff, public, or other organizations. Staff also has the right to remove any patron from an Internet terminal who does not abide by these guidelines.
- Use of the OPLIN/Internet computers is an extended privilege. Ethical and responsible use of these computers is expected of all patrons. Users who intentionally attempt to damage or alter the software and/or hardware components of this library or any other computer system will lose this privilege and will also be prosecuted, as legally appropriate.

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- The Herbert Wescoat Memorial Library does not guarantee and will not be responsible for information obtained from the Internet and any and all effects of its use. The information may be inaccurate, incomplete, un-authoritative, nonfactual, or inappropriate.
- Evaluate information on the Internet as you would with any other medium (conversations, books, radio and television).
- The Library's staff will assist patrons with Internet use as time permits but cannot offer personal instruction. Reference staff is always available to help patrons locate books, periodicals, and other materials about the Internet.
- Printing text and graphics from the Internet is allowed. The cost of print is .10¢/page for black & white and .50¢/page for color text or graphics.
- Neither the Herbert Wescoat Memorial Library nor OPLIN will provide patrons with e-mail accounts.
- This Internet policy is subject to revision at any time. All previous Internet users must abide by current policy in place.
- Users may not send, receive or display text or graphics which may be construed as obscene, as defined by Section 2907.01 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- Users are prohibited from misrepresenting themselves as another user; attempting to modify or gain access to files, passwords, or data belonging to others; seeking unauthorized access to any computer system, or damaging or altering software components of any network or database.
- OPLIN/Internet terminals may NOT be used by patrons under the age of 18 to send or receive e-mail or access chat rooms.
- Patrons may NOT use the OPLIN/Internet terminals for the purposes of gambling.
- Software or other computer programs may NOT be downloaded from the Internet.
- Failure to abide by these policies will result in suspension of library services and privileges.